

PRE COLUMBIAN

HISTORICAL  
TREASURES

1000-1492





Howard L. Statter













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1908

# THE FLATEY BOOK

AND RECENTLY DISCOVERED

## VATICAN MANUSCRIPTS

Concerning America as Early as the Tenth Century.

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DOCUMENTS NOW PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME, WHICH ESTABLISH BEYOND  
CONTROVERSY THE CLAIM THAT NORTH AMERICA WAS SETTLED  
BY NORSEMEN FIVE HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE  
THE TIME OF COLUMBUS.

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*Sagas that Describe the Voyages to, and Character of, the New Country, and Letters  
from several Popes directing Bishops in their Government  
of the Church in the Western World.*

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KLAR DWYGAANS







# THE FLATEYJARBOK





## THE FLATEY BOOK MANUSCRIPTS.



STEPHEN HANSEN (Stephanus), who edited Saxo in 1644 and served as Royal historian in Denmark, died in 1650. Upon his death Frederick the Third appointed the Icelandic Bishop Brynjulf Sveinsson to succeed him as Royal Danish Historian. Brynjulf was born at Holt, Iceland, in 1605 and died in 1675. He declined to accept the post of honor offered him, as he was indisposed to abandon various other literary works on which he was engaged; but he promised the king to do what he could to collect manuscripts and other monumental works in Iceland. This agreeable duty was accordingly assigned to him.

One of the first acts of the Bishop was to request all people residing in his diocese who owned manuscripts to turn them over to the King as a gift or for pay, either the original or a copy thereof. Many valuable manuscripts were secured in this way, but the most important as well as the most beautiful one was a magnificent parchment, of large folio size, which was owned by Jonas Torfason. Jonas Torfason resided on Flatey (Flat Island), a fertile island in Breidafjord, where Bishop Klæng of Skalholt had established a cloister in the year 1172. This cloister was in 1184 removed by Klæng's successor to Helgafell, on the coast of Iceland. The owner was utterly unwilling to part with this parchment, until the bishop made a personal visit and appeal to him. As a result of this visit Jonas Torfason made a present of the parchment to the bishop, whereupon the latter in return exempted Jonas from paying ecclesiastical taxes on his land.

From the house of its owner the manuscript got the name Flateyjarbok, that is, the Flat Island Book. Presumably the manuscript had been in the possession of the Jonas Torfason family for some time; for the Saga of Olaf Trygvason, published at Skalholt, in Iceland, in 1688, contains an appendix copied from an old document, the date of which could not be later than the close of the 15th or at the beginning of the 16th century. At the end of this old document it is stated that Olaf was King when the Flatey book was written, in 1387. From this we draw the conclusion that the parchment was known by this name before it came into the hands of Bishop Brynjulf Sveinsson. On

the other hand it could not have been written in the Flatey cloister, as this had been moved long before and at the date mentioned was Helgafell cloister.

The parchment itself contains satisfactory information in regard to its origin both as to authorship and locality. On the first page we read: "The owner of this book is Jon. Hakonson." The work, which comprises 1700 folio pages, contains a variety of matter almost equal to a scrap book. The first pages introduce songs, followed by a historical description of how Norway was settled. At the conclusion of this account occurs personal reminiscences of Erik Vidforle and Olaf Trygvason, with short stories in which these two characters have a part. Thereupon follows the Saga of Olaf Haraldson the saint, with short stories, and the Saga of the Jarls of the Orkneys. Succeeding in regular order are Sagas of Kings Sverre, Hakon, the old, and the latter's son Magnus. Next following is a short story of Einar Sokkason, of Greenland, and of Helge, and of Ulf the bad.

Finally come the annals of the creation of the world down to our time. The priest Jon Thordson wrote the story of Erik Vidforle and both the Olaf Sagas; but the priest Magnus Thorhalson wrote what follows and also what goes before, and revised the whole, thus dedicating the work: "May God Almighty and the Virgin Mary bless both the one that wrote and the one that dictated!"

As the author of this dedication states that the annals written by the priest Magnus Thorhalson went down to the time of writing, he must have been a contemporary of the writers of the manuscript. The annals end with the year 1395. Thus we have an exact statement in regard to the time when the parchment was completed and we also have in the document itself perfect evidence as to when it was begun. In one of the first stories we read: "Hakon's son Olaf was King when this book was written and 1387 years had passed since the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ." This parchment was originally bound in a single volume, but is now in two volumes, for easier handling.

Selected from these are pages bearing upon the Greenland discoveries and Vinland settlement which are reproduced and translated in this work. They contain the story of Erik the Red's discovery and settlement of Greenland, of Bjarne Herjulfson's glimpses of America on his way to Greenland, and the voyages by Leif, Thorvald, and Thorstein Erikson, and also of Thorfin and Gudrid.

The Flateybook parchment is kept in the Royal Library in Copenhagen, where the writer has repeatedly seen and carefully examined it. It is one of the most beautiful manuscripts, on parchment, to be found anywhere. It is

written by a master of penmanship, and the initials, as the reader will see, are rare examples of the penman's art.

The other manuscript which tells us of the Vinland voyages is the so-called Hauksbook, giving the story of Thorfin Karlsefne. This equally exquisite parchment is preserved in the so-called Arna-Magnæan collection in Copenhagen, which is a part of the Copenhagen University Library. The date of this manuscript is not older than 1299, or later than 1334. Hauk Erlendson died this latter year and there is substantial evidence that the manuscript was written partly by him and partly by his scribes, the parchment showing at least two other penmanships besides Hauk's, from whom an autograph letter is still preserved.

The Hauksbook takes its name from the powerful and distinguished Norwegian who lived in the early part of the 14th century. His father was Erlend Olafson the Strong, who had served as lawman and sysselman in Iceland, and whose death occurred about 1312. Hauk's mother was an Icelandic woman. In the year 1295 he was chosen lawman in Iceland, but about 1299 he moved to Norway where he held the office of lawman for a number of years. In 1302 he became a member of the King's cabinet; in 1304 he was knighted, and subsequently he made a number of voyages to Iceland on missions for King Hakon. In 1319 he was one of the Norwegian representatives who concluded a treaty of union between Norway and Sweden, making Magnus Erikson King of both countries. He died in Bergen, Norway, about the year 1334.

This Hauk Erlendson took a deep interest in Norse history and literature, and as a scholar he rendered most valuable service by making excellent and highly critical copies of laws and Sagas. Some of these are still extant in the so-called Hauksbook preserved in the Arne-Magnæan department of the University Library in Copenhagen. This choice parchment contains the Landnamabok, the Kristnisaga, the Saga of Thormod Kolbrunarskald, the Thorgeirs Saga, parts of the Skjoldunga Saga and of the Trojumanna Saga, a Norse version of Merlin's Prophecies and, what is of special interest in this connection, the account we give in this volume in facsimile of Thorfin Karlsefne's voyage to Vinland. It will thus be seen that this precious manuscript dates back to the beginning of the 14th century.

Publication of these thoroughly authenticated documents, with translations, must compel acknowledgment of the truth of the claim that during the 10th and 11th centuries Norsemen discovered and visited a great extent of the eastern coasts of North America. These documents will doubtless also lead to the conviction that for four centuries, immediately following the discovery, in-



tercourse between Greenland, Iceland and Vinland was never entirely discontinued. The main fact is certain and undisputable. On the other hand, there are in them, as well as in all other ancient writings, certain portions of the narrative which are obscure, and which it will devolve upon future scholars to clear up. On this account we think we render a very important service in publishing the original sources of information, viz., the ancient manuscripts themselves, so that all may have the opportunity to consult them and to form their judgment as to the accuracy of the interpretations given. The evidence presented in this work proves beyond dispute that the coast of North America was discovered in the latter part of the 10th century, immediately after the discovery and settlement of Greenland by the Norsemen, and that this coast was visited repeatedly by men in the 11th century, and likewise by colonists and exploring expeditions in the 12th and 14th centuries.

But even this is not all. These Northern antiquities also show that Christianity was introduced in America, not only among the Norsemen, who settled in Vinland and other places, but probably also among the natives, that the Norsemen found there.

Finally there is a chain of evidence making it highly probable that Columbus had knowledge of the Norse voyages and was guided by this knowledge on his ever-memorable voyage in 1492.

With regard to traces of the residence and settlement of the Norsemen on this side of the Atlantic in the 10th and succeeding centuries, we may content ourselves for the present by referring the reader to the facts as stated in the Vinland Volume of *Norœna*. The matter will doubtless never cease to be a subject for interesting study and investigation by both European and American scholars.

In the meantime our text books on American history will continue to tell our school children of Bjarne Herjulfson, the first European whose eyes beheld the New World. Our sons and daughters will be taught that Leif Erikson was the first white man who turned the prow of his ship to the west and landed upon the shores of this vast continent; nor shall Thorvald Erikson, the first European, and the first Christian buried beneath American sod, be forgotten. We shall not forget Thorfin and Gudrid, who established the first European colony in the western hemisphere, nor their infant son Snorre, the first child of European blood to open his eyes in the New World.

RASMUS B. ANDERSON.

rebr hni vauð son hñ þ ap iadri t mðe þ viga tab þa vñða  
bigr ulnd þa bugu þyftar daimi a hoñstrond þar andaðe  
a þa. cent. þeþ þa þoðhild doct þoðd z þbiang bñtar bugu  
þ þa ari þbiang hni haub doellu vedat cent þa noðd z bio  
a ænebbiðau hni uatthoñe son cent z þñllat hñ leþu en  
epc uig eññipf saur z holmgauð hñapni uat cent gr bñ  
oð hauba dal þoð hñ uestu til þeida. þ. z bio þ dñmei aæureba hñ le  
ð þgea seztobba z nadice hñ ballade t. það ap þoðust dallyr z  
baudag m þ þgea tð los þ loqu and. aþu þgmi þ ueit and at  
mali zeymþe oð lñmei z lñm þanz oð atþa þ. z þbiang uipil  
son. þu þgeatngu uat lñm þoð gelu z þgea oð hñtar dal  
and uat lebr a þnef þge bio cent þa leþu hñ hapt þ and uoge  
en er hñ uat hñm þuðau þu stñr hñ vo um eññat and laggð  
þ at hñ dade at leta lant þeþ er dñabioñi son ulþ krabu la  
er dñ uestu um hapt þa er hñ þa gñbiarñ lber. buet z ap  
er mñu leia al vma lña ep hñ þynde lñdñ. and. siglð mñ m  
gðe toli hñ þa lñ z kom uat at þ þar sem hñ ballade mñ  
uolul la hñtar uñ hlalebr hñ þoð þa það lñd mñ lñdñu at  
leta ep þan vi bñgñda lñdñ hñ uat hñm þyfta uet þ and  
ei naer and hñie eññat luggð um uat ep þoð hñ t and. þ. z  
tab ser þar huðað hñ þoð þ lñm þ hñma uet uñggð z gðp  
uñðe dñeþ. hñ uat and uet þ holmu ut hñapni gñpue  
hñ þña lñmar t þoð hñ t mðe a bom lñpe lñm þ þeida. þ. hñ  
ballade lñdñ þer hñ hapt þundit gñeñd þat hñ buat þ mñu  
þyfta m þngat er lande hñ ut and uat ande um uat e v  
lñdñ ep þoð hñ at lñgia lñdñ hñ bio þ þeida hñ lñd þa  
lñu lñgla þuð m at a þ lñma lñmar e and vauð þoð at hñ  
gñ gñeñd þa þoð halþa þoð tðgr lñpa oð þeida. þ. z tð  
þ. en þyftan buomuzat ut þngat lñm tab apat e lñm tñ  
and þ uat yv uetru þyft en dñm uat lðgñeñ a lñdñ a





# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

rekr hinn raude, son hans, foru af Jadri til Islandz, firir viga sakir. Þa var vjda bygt Island. Þeir biuggu fyst at Draungum a Hornnstrondum. Þar andadiz st Þorualldr. Æirekr fek þa Þorhilldar, dottur Jorundar ok Þorbiargar knarrar bringu, er þa atti Þorbiornn hinn haukdalski. Redzst Æirekr þa nordan ok bio a Æirekstodum hia Uatahornne. Son Æireks ok Þorhilldar het Leifr. En .....5 eftir uig Eyiulfs saurs ok holmgaungu Hrafnis uar Æirekr gerr brot or Hauka dal. For han uestr til Breida fiardar ok bio j Ôxney a Æirekstodum. Han le di Þorgesti setastokka ok nadi œigi; han kallade til. Þadan af gerduzst deilur ok bardagar med þeim Þorgesti, sem segir j sögu Æireks. Styrr Þorgrims son ueitti Æireki at malum, ok Eyiulfr or Suiney ok synir Branz or Alfta firde ok Þorbiornn Uifils .....10 son. En Þorgestlingum ueitti synir Þordar gellis ok Þorgœir or Hjitar dal. Æirekr uard sekr a Þornes þinge. Bio Æirekr þa skip sitt hafs j Æireks uoge, en er han uar buinn, fylgdu þeir Styrr honum ot om eyiar. Æirekr sagde þeim, at han ætlade at leita lanþ þess, er Gunnbiornn son Ulfs kraku sa, er rak uestr um haf, þa er han fann Gunnbiarnar sker. Kuetz han af .....15 tr mundu leita til vina sinna, ef han fynde landit. Æirekr siglde undan Sn gfellz iokli. Han fann landit ok kom utan at þui, þar sem han kallade Mid iokul; sa hætir nu Blaserkr. Han for þa þadan sudr med landinu at leita, ef þadan væri byggjanda landit. Han uar hinn fjysta uetr j Æireks ey, nærr midri hinne eystri byggd. Um uorit eftir for han til Æireks fiardar ok .....20 tok ser þar bu stad. Han for þat sumar j hina uestri ubygd ok gaf uijda órnefni. Han uar annan uetr j Holmum uit Hrafnns gripu; en hit þridia sumarit for han til Islandz ok kom skipe sinu j Breida fiord. Han kallade landit, þat er hafde fundit, Grænland, þuiat han kuat, þat mundu fysa menn þangat, er landit heti uel. Æirekr uar a Islande um uetrin, en om .....25 sumarit eftir for han at bygia landit; han bio j Bratta hlið j Æireks firde. Suo segia frodir menn, at a þui sama sumre, er Æirekr raude for at byggia Grænland, þa for halfr fiorde tôgr skipa or Breida firde ok Borgar firde, en fiorian kuomuuzst ot þangat; sum rak astr, en sum tyn durst. Þat uar xv uetrum, fyr en kristni uar lôtekin a Islande; a .....30

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

rik den Röde, hans Søn, drog fra Jæderen til Island, for Drabs Skyld. Da var vidtom  
bebygget Island. De boede først paa Drange ved Hornstrand. Der død-  
e Thorvald. Erik ægtede da Thorhild, Datter af Jörund og Thorbjerg Knarrarbringa,  
som da havde ægtet Thorbjörn den Hökdölske. Drog Erik da nordfra og boede  
paa Eriksstad ved Vatshorn. Eriks og Thorhilds Søn hed Lejf. Men ..... 5  
efter Eyulf Sörs og Holmgang-Rafns Drab blev Erik forvist bort  
fra Hökedal. Drog han vestlig til Breidafjord og boede paa Öxnö paa Eriksstad. Han laan-  
te Thorgest Sædestötter og fik dem ikke tilbage, han krævede da. Deraf kom Tvist og  
Slagsmaal med Thorgestlingerne, som fortælles i Eriks Saga. Styr Thorgrimssøn ydede Erik Hjælp i  
Sagen, og Eyulf fra Svinö og Brands Sønner fra Alptafjord og Thorbjörn Vífils- ..... 10  
søn. Men Thorgestlingerne støttedes af Thord Gellers Sønner og Thorgejr fra Hiterdal.  
Erik blev fredløs paa Thornæs Ting. Gjorde Erik da Skibet sit sejlkart i Eriksvaag,  
og da han var færdig, fulgte Styr's ham ud om Öerne. Erik sagde  
dem, at han agtede at lede det Land op, som Gunnbjörn, Ulf Krages Søn, saa,  
da [han] drev vestpaa over Havet, dengang at han fandt Gunnbjörns Skær. Sagde, han til - ..... 15  
bage monne drage til Vennerne sine, hvis han fandt Landet. Erik sejlede bort fra Sn-  
efjæld Jökel. Han fandt Landet og kom ude fra ind til det, som han kaldte Midt-  
jökel, den hedder nu Blaasærk. Han drog da derfra sönder med Landet for at  
søge, om dersteds Landet var bebyggeligt. Han var hin første Vinter paa Eriks-  
ö nær Midten af den östre Bygd. Om Vaaren derefter drog han til Eriksfjord og ..... 20  
tog sig der Bolig. Han drog den Sommer til den vestre Ubygd og gav  
rundt om Stednavne. Han var den anden Vinter paa Holme ved Rafnsnipa; men  
den tredje Sommer fór han til Island og kom med sit Skib til Breidafjord. Han  
kaldte Landet, som han havde fundet, Grönland, thi han sagde, det monne  
trække Mænd derhen, naar Landet hed smukt. Erik var paa Island om Vinteren, men om ..... 25  
Sommeren efter drog han bort at bebygge Landet, han boede paa Brattelid i Eriksfjord.  
Saa sige kyndige Folk, at i den samme Sommer, hvor Erik den Röde fór ud at bebyg-  
ge Grönland, da droge halvfjerdsindsti<sup>9</sup> Skibe fra Breidafjord og Borgar-  
fjord, og fjorten kom ud dertil, somme drev tilbage og somme for-  
liste. Det var XV Vintre föränd Kristendommen blev loofæstet paa Island; i ..... 30

# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*English Translation.*

ric the Red, his son, went from Jæderen<sup>1)</sup> to Iceland, for manslaughter's sake. Then was widely colonized Iceland. They lived first on Drange at Hornstrand. There died Thorvald. Eric married then Thorhild, daughter of Jörund and Thorbiorg Knarrarbringa, who then had married Thorbiorn the Hökdöler. Went Eric then from north and took abode  
5 at Ericstad beside Vatnshorn. Eric's and Thorhild's son was called Leif. But ..... after Eyulf Sör's and Duelling-Rafn's slaughter Eric was made away from Hökedal. Went he westward to Breidafirth and took abode in Öxney at Ericstad. He lent  
10 t to Thorgest his seat-posts, and got them not back; he then claimed them. Thence was made quarelling and fighting with them, the Thorgesters, as it says in Eric's Saga. Styr Thorgrimsson aided Eric in the matter, and Eyulf of Soiney and the sons of Brand of Alptafirth and Thorbiorn Vifils - .....  
son. But the Thorgesters were aided by the sons of Thord Geller and Thorgeir of Hitardal. Eric was outlawed at Thorness Thing. Made Eric then his ship ready to sail, in Ericsvág,  
15 but when he was ready, followed they, Styr's, him out around the islands. Eric said to them, that he intended to search for that land, which Guñbiorn Ulf Krag's son saw, when[he] was driven westward across the ocean, when he found Gunnbiorn's Skerry. Said, he b- .....  
ack might go for his friends, if he found the land. Eric sailed away from Sn-owfell's-Jokul. He found the land and came from without to that, which he called Mid-jokul; is called now Blaserk. He went then from thence southward along the land to search, if the land might be fit for settling. He was that first winter on Ericsv-  
20 ey, near the middle of the eastern settlement. The spring after he went to Ericsfirth and ..... took there his abode. He went that summer to the western uninhabited tracts and gave far and wide local names. He was the second winter at Holme by Rafnsgnipa; but the third summer he went to Iceland and came with his ship to Breidafirth. He called the land, that he had found, Greenland; for he said, that might  
25 attract men thither, when the land had a fine name. Eric was on Iceland during the winter, but on ..... the summer after he went out to settle the land; he lived at Brattalid in Ericsfirth. So say wise men, that in the same summer, when Eric the Red set out to settle Greenland, then three tens and a half<sup>2)</sup> ships sailed out of Breidafirth and Borgarfirth, and fourteen came out thither; some were driven back and some c-  
30 ast away. That was XV winters, before christianity was fixed by law in Iceland; in .....





þ sama sumre þ v' þæðe þp z þuallz kodyant þ þur mæna  
mu þ agnðs er þa þ v' m; æræbi. þ þulpr þulpr. þ þ hio  
a þulpr nefe. þetill þetill. þ þutpr þutpr. þ þolpr þolpr. þ  
a þelgi þþam þ alþra. þ þbion gløza siglu þ æm æm. þ  
þapgnur þapgnur. þ z uarna þupur ærilaugr ærilaugr. þ  
en lumer þogu til uer þygðr. þ þur þepur z æræde  
**Þ**a er þerætan neta uogu lida þra þ er æræ. vande þo  
ærbigga gæntid þa þo þer þon æræ. mæ ær gænt  
lænde mæð. þom þ t þrandst um haustir þa e' ær  
mugga þan u' þom ncydan ær haloga mæ. þer þagðe þ  
þi þnu. m t mæð ær z þo þeð ærþund ær þagðe þ  
þm þen oðr þeðm mæ er a þi þmð þom ær þeð þ  
þuelliga uer þer uer þ þa þmð z ællo þipulær þi v' le  
þer m; þi um uer u' þolldu þiavm lætad. þæto  
erulpr uer þæto þan þulpr mæ þ uer þmð þugo  
þi þonama mæ þ þulpr ær þuallpr þ æmll  
e uogð z æræta neta. þulpr þio þiæ ærætoðe þæð. þ  
þona þ en þæne þan þra z v' þi epuligga mæ þ  
þiæ ær u' þeð a mæ ællo nard þm gæ þæde t þæz  
mæðmæ z u' þi uer þuor v' lænde ær m; þeð þm b  
uæ ær þæne þip þ þæ z þi þææta uer er þ v' þæ  
þa þa þulpr t gæntæz þeræm m; ær. z þa þu þm  
m; þulpr v' æræpe þæreþr m þeræm þa er ær þæp  
ðingær æræpe þæ er þm ær þ. m þi ær þ mæba  
þeim mæna lætan þa þæna þeðu þellæ þæ þollæ  
þollær æræm þi m ælli. þulpr þio a þulpr nefe þ v'  
þi gæpææta mæ ær. vande þio þ þææta hio þ uer  
þæ m; mæm uæmgu z luru ællær ær þi þi v' þom ær.  
þer þuallz z þæm ær þiæ ær þæ ær þi v' þæp þ m  
er þææz þæ z þingu þæ þ æræ þ æm m; ær æræ þ





# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

Því sama sumre foru utan Fridrekr byskup ok Þorvalldr Kodrans son. Þessir menn na-  
mu land a Grenlandi, er þa foru vt med Æireki: Heriulfr Heriulfs fiord, han bio  
a Heriulfs nese; Ketil Ketils fiord; Hrafn Hrafn's fiord; Sölu Sölu a d-  
al; Helgi Þorbranz son Alfta fiord; Þorbiornn Glora Siglu fiord; Æinar Æinars fiord;  
Hafgrimr Hafgrims fiord ok Vatna huerfui; Arnlaugr Arnlaugs fiord; ..... 35  
en sumer foru til uestri bygdar. Leifr hepnir var skidr.  
**Þ**a er sextan uetr voru lidnir, fra því er Æirekr raude for  
at byggja Grænland, þa for Leifr son Æireks utan af Græn-  
lande til Noregs. Kom han til Þrandheims um haustit, þa er Olaf konungr  
Tryggva son var kominn nordan af Haloga lande. Leifr lagde ski- ..... 40  
pi sinu inn til Nidar óss ok for þegar a fund Olafs konungs. Bodade konungr tro  
hönum sem odrum heidnum monnum, er a hans fund komu. Gek konungi þat au-  
duelliga vit Leif; var han þa skidr ok aller skipueriar hans. Var Le-  
ifr med konungi um uetrinn uel halldinn. Biarni leitadi Grænlandr.  
**H**eriulfr var Bardar son Heriulfs sonar. Han var frændi Ingo- ..... 45  
Hls landnama manna. Þeim Heriulfui gaf Ingolfr land amill-  
e Vogs ok Reykia nes. Heriulfr bio fyst a Dreptokki. Þorgerdr het  
kona hans, en Biarnne son Þeirra, ok var hinn efnligasti madr. Han/  
fystirst utan þegar a unga alldri; uard honum gott boede til fiar ok/  
mannuirdingar, ok var sinn uetr huort utan landr edr med fedr sinum. B- ..... 50  
rattatti Biarnne skip j förum, ok hinn sidarsta uetr, er han var j Noregi,  
þa bra Heriulfr til Grænlandferdar med Æireki, ok bra bui sinu.  
Med Heriulfui var a skipe sudreyskr madr kristinn, sa er orti Hafger-  
dingar drapu. Þar er þetta stef j: Minar bidr ek münka/  
reyni || meina lausann fara bæina ||; hœidis hallde háttar folldar || ..... 55  
hallar drottinn yfir mer stalli ||. Heriulfr bio a Heriulfs nese; han var  
hinn gofgarsti madr. Æirekr raude bio j Bratta hlið; han var  
þar med mestri uirdingu, ok lutu allir til hans. Þessi voru bornn Æireks:  
Leifr, Þorvalldr ok Þorstœinn, en Freydis het dottir hans; hon var gift þeim manni,  
er Þoruardr het, ok biuggu þau j Górdum, þar sem nu er byskupstoll. Hon ..... 60



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| den samme Sommer drog afsted Fredrik Biskop og Thorvald Kodranssön . Disse Mænd to-<br>ge Land paa Grönland, som der drog ud med Erik : Herjulf Herjulfssjörd, han boede<br>paa Herjulfssnæs; Ketil Ketilsjörd; Rafn Rafnsjörd; Sölve Sölved-<br>al; Helge Thorbrandssön Alptafjörd; Thorbjörn Glora Siglesjörd; Ejnar Ejnarsjörd;<br>Hafgrim Hafgrimsjörd og Vatnehverf; Arnlög Arnlögsjörd; .....     | 35 |
| men somme fór til Vesterbygden.      Lejf den Lykkelige blev döbt.<br><b>D</b> a at sexten Vintre vare forledne, fra den Gang at Erik den Röde drog ud<br>at bebygge Grönland, da drog Lejf, Eriks Sön, bort fra Grön-<br>land til Norge. Kom han til Trondhjem om Hösten, da at Olaf Konge, <sup>1)</sup><br>Trygves Sön, var kommen norden fra Haloge Land. Lejf lagde Skib - .....                   | 40 |
| et sit ind til Nidaros, og drog strax i Besög hos Olaf Konge. Bebudede Kongen Troen<br>ham ligesom andre hedenske Mennesker, der kom i Besög hos ham. Gik dette for Kongen<br>let med Lejf; blev han da döbt og alle Skibsfolkene hans. Var Le-<br>jf hos Kongen om Vinteren vel behandlet.      Bjarne opsögte Grönland<br><b>H</b> erjulf var Sön af Bard Herjulfssön. Han var Frände af Ingo - ..... | 45 |
| Hlf Landnamsmand. Til Herjulf's gav Ingolf Land imell-<br>em Vaag og Reykianæs. Herjulf boede först paa Drepstok. Thorgerd hed<br>hans Kone og Bjarne deres Sön, som var en höjst evnerig Mand. Han<br>længtes udenlands allerede i sin unge Alder; han stod sig godt baade med Rigdom og,<br>med Anseelse, og var hver Vinter enten udenlands eller hos sin Fader. Sn- .....                           | 50 |
| art ejede Bjarne Skib i Fart, og den sidste Vinter at han var i Norge,<br>da beredte Herjulf sig til Grönlandsfærd med Erik og bröd op sit Hjem.<br>Med Herjulf var paa Skibet en syderöisk kristen Mand, som gjorde Hafger-<br>dinga Drapa. Dær er dette Stev i: Mine beder jeg Munkes<br>Pröver   meen-löse Rejser fremme;   Högens holde Hættes Jordens   .....                                      | 55 |
| Hallens Drot over mig Sæde.   <sup>2)</sup> Herjulf boede paa Herjulfss-Næs; han var<br>en höjst anset Mand. Erik den Röde boede paa Brattelid; han var<br>dær med mest Agtelse, og löde alle ham. Disse vare Eriks Börn:<br>Lejf, Thorvald og Thorstein, men Freydis hed hans Datter; hun var gift med en Mand,<br>som hed Thorvard, og boede de i Garde, dær som nu er Bispestol. Hun [var] .....     | 60 |

<sup>1)</sup> 35

<sup>2)</sup> Jeg beder Munkes menlöse Pröver (Christus) fremme mine Rejser;  
Jordens Hættes (Himlens) Hallers Drot holde Högens Sæde (Haanden) over mig!

<sup>3)</sup> regerede fra 995 til 1000

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

the same summer went away Frederic the Bishop and Thorvald Kodransson. These men took land in Greenland, who then went out with Eric: Heriulf Heriulfsfirth, he dwelt at Heriulfsness; Ketil Ketilfsfirth; Rafn Rafnsfirth; Sölve Sölvedal; Helge Thorbrandsson Alptafirth; Thorbiorn Glora Siglefirth; Einar Einarsfirth;

35 Hafgrim Hafgrimsfirth and Vatnehoerf; Arnlög Arnlögsfirth; .....  
but some went to the western settlement. Leif the happy was christened.

When sixteen winters were passed, since Eric the Red went out to settle Greenland, then went Leif Eric's son out from Greenland to Norway. Came he to Drontheim in the autumn, when Olaf king,<sup>†)</sup>

40 Trygve's son, was come from Halogaland. Leif laid his ship in to Nidaros and went at once on a visit to Olaf king. Expounded the king the faith to him as to other heathen men who to visit him came. Was to the king this easy with Leif; was he then christened and all his shipmates too. Was Leif with the king all the winter well treated. Biarne sought Greenland.

45 Heriulf was son of Bard Heriulfsson. He was a kinsman to Ingo-  
Hlf the land-taking-man. To them Heriulf's gave Ingolf land between Vág and Reykianess. Heriulf dwelt first at Drepstok. Thorgerd was called his wife, and Biarne their son, who was a most promising man. He longed to go abroad even in his young age; was he well off both in wealth and in  
50 men's esteem, and was every winter either abroad or with his father. Soon Biarne owned ship in freight, and the last winter, that he was in Norway, Heriulf set about a Greenland-voyage with Eric, and broke up his home.

With Heriulf was on the ship a Christian man from the Sudreyr<sup>3)</sup>, who made the Hafgerdinga Drapa. There is this stave in it: Mine beg I monks'  
55 searcher ||, faultless voyages to forward ||; the hawk's may he hold the hood of the earth ||  
the hall's king over me seat ||<sup>4)</sup>. Heriulf dwelt on Heriulfsness; he was a most regarded man. Eric the Red dwelt at Brattalid; he was there with most esteem, and louted all to him. These were Eric's children: Leif, Thorvald, and Thorstein, but Freydis was called his daughter; she was wedded to a man  
60 called Thorvard, and dwelt they at Garde, there where now is bishop-seat. She [was] .....

<sup>1)</sup> in the south of Norway. <sup>2)</sup> 35. <sup>3)</sup> the Hebrides. <sup>4)</sup> I beg the faultless monk-searcher (Christ) forward my voyages; may the king of the halls of the earth's hood (Heaven) hold the hawk's seat (his hand) over me!  
<sup>†)</sup> reigned from 995 to 1000





suade mabill en þuandz uar luti m uar h' mlog gepm t peor  
 hoendit uar polb en gureldi f þu mme. þ sama sum ko bearnie  
 þuþi lmu aeyrar er pad' h' hapde þuor siglt um uozit þan  
 ntende þatu barnia mtil z villoe de þa ap þeipe lmu þa þ  
 du hasear h' huat er h' barnast þ en h' lmar ac h' cedade ac  
 halla tidnemni lme z þiguar pðz lmu uear vilt z vil ek h  
 allat skipinu til gnlðz ep þ' vlt m þylgd vœtra allir quod  
 uat h' eadū þylgia vilka þa mti. biarne v vltug mū þidā  
 uoz þd þar sem ænge uoz hep bomt f gnlðz hap en þo hal  
 ka fr nu f hap þeg þr v bumer z siglō þra daga þar t e lōdr  
 uar uatnar en þa tob ap þyrma z lagde at mōenur z þabur  
 z mltupr æ huert at þr þ z lþra f mōgū dægrū. ept þ la þ  
 lōl lā z mltu þa dila æt umā mū segl z sigla þra dægr.  
 adz þr la lō z vœddu um m lōt huat lōi þra mū uā e. B. bu  
 tzt hūgia at þ mti æ gnlð þr lþyrla huoz h' uill sigla at þe  
 lōi æz æ þ e mti vœdd at sigla f nand ur lōt æ lūo gā þr ok  
 la þ þuor at lōt uar opiaullot z lþogi uaræ z lmar hoedir  
 a lōmū z lēu lōt a bab þozda z lēu lēu hoepa alind lā  
 sigla þr mō dægr adz þr lā lōd anar þr lþyrla huoz B. et  
 lade þ en gnlð. h' q æ hells ætla þra gnlð en h' lþyrla þu  
 at teblar en mlog mltu lāgdur agnlð þr mlgnduræt lō  
 þra lōd z la þ vā lēu lōd z vōe uaræ þa tob ap þyr þ þ þa z  
 vœddu hasear þ at þ þeð þ vœdd at teblar þ lōd en. B. uill þ æ  
 þr þotust hōz þu þuā vōd z vōm at ongu æu þ þ obing  
 seg. B. en þo þeð h' ap þu nōbbur amali ap hasear lmu h' lōt  
 þa vōmā segl z lūo var gr z lēu þra lōpū þra lōt z sigla  
 hap vrlūmgt bōr þr dū dægr z la þa lōt þeð e þ lō uar h  
 at z þuollat z mōull a þr lþyrla þa ep biarne vilt æt lō  
 lara þar en h' q æ þ vika þuor m lōt þra lō ogōgnælige  
 mlogdū þr æ segl lūo hallat m lōmū þra z la at þ v æt lō  
 lēu en lōpū v þu lōt z hēldū f hap lūi lāma bōr en ve  
 d' q f lōd z bad. B. þa lūpū z æ sigla mēua en bōd dū  
 gde ul lþyrla þra z vœdd siglō nu þuogur dægr þa lā þr lōd  
 h' þeð þa lþyrla þr. B. huoz h' ætla þra vā gnlð æ  
 b. lūat þra er lēat þ er m æt lōt þra gnlð z h' m v at lō  
 hallat lūo gā þr z lōt lō und' æmlydū nese at vœllæ dægr  
 z uar þar bōt æmlydū en þar bō lūpū pad' B. at nēl  
 z ap þ hep nēl nēl teblar z vō lōd hallat hūlþr uel þ  
 B. m til þaudū lūi. z hōt nu siglingu z er m pōdū lūi  
 mēdā hēuþr h' þa z lōd lūo h' þar ept. p. lūi.



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

suarre mikill, en Þoruardr uar litil menni; uar hon/ miog gefin til fear.  
Hædidit uar folk aa Grænlandi j þann/ tíma/. Þat sama/ sumar kom/ Biarnne  
skipi sinu a Eyrar, er fadir hans hafde brott siglt/ om/ vorit/. Þau/  
tíðende Þottu Biarnna/ mikil, ok/ villde æigi bera af skipe sinu. Þa/ spur-  
du hasetar hans, huat er han/ bærist firir; en han/ suarar, at han/ ætlade at .....5  
hallda/ sidueniu sinne ok/ þiggia/ at fôdr sinum/ uetr/ rist; ok/ vil ek/ h/  
allda/ skipinu til Grenlandz, ef þer/ vilitt mer fylgd/ æita/. Allir quod/-  
uast hans raðum/ fylgia/ vilia/. Þa/ mælti Biarnne: æ/ vitrlig mun/ þikia/  
uor ferd, þar sem æingi uorr/ hefir komit j Grenlandz/ haf. En þo hal/-  
lda/ þeir nu j haf, þegar þeir voru/ buner, ok/ sigldu þria daga þar til er landit/ .....10  
uar uattnat; en þa tok af byrina, ok/ lagde aa/ norrœnur ok/ þokur,  
ok/ uissu þeir æigi, huert at þeir foru, ok/ skipti/ þat mœrgum/ dægum/. Eftir þat sa þeir  
sol sia/ ok/ maattu/ þa/ deila ættir; vinda nu segl ok/ sigla/ þetta/ dægr,  
adr þeir sa land, ok/ ræddu um med/ ser, huat landi þetta/ mun/ uera; en/ Biarnne kue/-  
tist hyggia, at þat mundi æigi Grenland. Þeir spyria/ huort/ han/ uill sigla at þessu/ .....15  
landi edr æigi. Þat er mitt raad at sigla j nand vit landit. Ok/ suo gera/ þeir, ok/  
sa þat bratt, at landit uar ofiaullott ok/ skogi uæxit ok/ smar hædir  
a landinu; ok/ letu landit a bak/ borda ok/ letu skaut/ horfa a land. Sidan  
sigla þeir tuô dægr, adr þeir sa land annat. Þeir spyria, huort Biarnne et/-  
lade þat, en Grenland. Han/ kuaz/ æigi helldr ætla þetta/ Grenland/ en hit fyrri/ þui/ .....20  
at ioklar ere miog myklar sagdir a Grenlandi. Þeir nalgduæst bratt  
þetta/ land/ ok/ sa þat vera/ slett land ok/ vide/ næxit. Þa tok af byr firir þeim/ þa r-  
æddu hasetar, þat at þeim/ þotti þat rad at taka þat land, en Biarnne uill þat æigi.  
Þeir þottuæst bæde þurfua/ vid ok/ rættu. At ôngu eru þer þui obirgir,  
segir Biarnne; en þo fek/ han af þui nôkkut amæli af hasetum sinum. Han bat .....25  
þa/ minda segl, ok/ suo var gert, ok/ settu fram/ stafnu fra lande ok/ sigla j  
haf/ rœsynnings byr þriu dægr ok/ sa þa/ landit þridea; en þat land uar h/-  
att ok/ fiollott ok/ iokull a/. Þeir spyria þa, ef Biarne villde at lande/  
lata þar, en van/ quæ æigi þat vilia, þuiat mer litæst þetta/ land ogagnuænligt.  
Nu logdu þeir æigi segl sitt, hallda/ med/ landinu fram/ ok/ sa, at þat var eyland/, .....30  
settu enn/ stafnu vid þui landi ok/ helldu j haf hinn/ sama byr; en/ ve/-  
dr ôo j hond, ok/ bad Biarne þa/ suipta ok/ æigi sigla mæira en bæde dy-  
gde uel skipi þeirra ok/ ræida. Sigldu nu fiogur dægr. Þa sa þeir land/  
hit fiorda. Þa spurdu þeir Biarna, huort han/ ætlade þetta/ vera/ Grenland/ edr æigi.  
Biarne suarar: þetta/ er likæst þui er mer er sagt fra/ Grenlandi, ok/ her munu ver at landi .....35  
hallda. Suo gera/ þeir ok/ taka land/ under æinhueriu nese at kuellde dags.  
Ok/ uar þar baatr a nesinu, en þar bio Heriulfr fadir Biarna a þui nesi.  
Ok/ af þui hefir nesit nafnu/ tekit ok/ er sidan kallat Heriulfs nes. For  
Biarne nu til faudur sins. Ok/ hættir nu siglingu ok/ er med/ fôdur sinum),  
medan/ Heriulfr lifde, ok/ sidan bio han/ þar eftir fôdur sinu. .... 40



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Danish Translation.*

meget storraadig, men Thorvard var en lille Mand; var hun mest given ham for hans Rigdoms Skyld  
Hedensk var Folket i Grönland paa den Tid. Den samme Sommer kom Bjarne  
med sit Skib til Eyrar, da Faderen hans var bort sejlet om Vaaren. Den  
Tidende tyktes Bjarne stor, og vilde han ikke udlade af sit Skib. Da spurgte  
te Besætningen hans, hvad at han havde for; men han svarer, at han agtede at ..... 5  
holde Sædaanen sin og tage hos sin Fader Vinterbo; og vil jeg holde  
olde med Skibet til Grönland, hvis I ville mig Følge yde. Alle tilsagde  
de at ville følge hans Raad. Da mælte Bjarne: uklog mon tykkes  
vor Færd, eftersom ingen af os har været i Grönlands Hav. Men dog holdt  
de nu ud til Havs, strax de vare rede, og sejlede tre Dage, indtil at Landet ..... 10  
var skjult af Vandet; men da tog Bören af, og de fik Nordenstorme og Taager,  
og vidste de ikke, hvor de fore, og medtog dette mange Dage. Derefter fik de  
Solen at se og formaaede da at skelne Himmelegnene; hejse nu Sejl og sejle denne Dag,  
för de saa Land, og raadsløge med hverandre om, hvad Land dette mon være; og Bjarne sagde  
sig at mene, at det var ikke Grönland. De spørge, om han vil sejle til dette ..... 15  
Land eller ikke. Det er mit Raad at sejle i Nærheden af Landet. Og saaledes gøre de, og  
saa da snart, at Landet var udfjeldet og skovbevoxet og med smaa Höje  
paa Landet; og lod Landet til Bagbord og lod Sködet vende mod Land. Siden  
sejle de to Dage, för de saa et andet Land. De spørge, om Bjarne mente,  
te, det nu var Grönland. Han svarede, ikke heller troede han dette var Grönland mer end det forrige. Thi ..... 20  
Jökler ere meget store paa Grönland, er det sagt. De nærmede sig snart  
dette Land og saa det var fladt Land og vidt bevoxet. Da tog Bören af for dem. Da udtalte  
Folkene, at for dem tyktes det raadeligst at tage det Land, men Bjarne vil det ikke.  
De mente baade samme Ved og Vand. Med intet deraf ere I uforsynede;  
siger Bjarne; men dog fik han derfor nogen Dadel af Folkene sine. Han böd ..... 25  
da hejse Sejl, og saaledes blev gjort, og satte de Forstævnen fra Land og sejle ud  
paa Havet for Sydvest-Bör tre Dage, og saa da det tredje Land; og det Land var højt  
og bjergigt og med Jökler paa. De spørge da, om Bjarne vilde til Land  
lægge der, men han siger ikke at ville det, thi mig synes dette Land ugavnligt.  
Nu lagde de ikke Sejlet deres, holde langs Landet frem og saa, at det var en Ö, ..... 30  
sætte atter Bagstævnen mod det Land og holde ud til Havs for samme Bör; men Vinden  
en voxede strax, og böd Bjarne da rebe og ikke sejle stærkere end baade passede  
vel for Skibet deres og for Rigningen. Sejlede nu i fire Dage. Da saa de Land,  
det fjerde. Da spurgte de Bjarne, om han skönkede dette være Grönland eller ikke.  
Bjarne svarer: dette er ligest det, som mig er sagt om Grönland, og her monne vi til Land ..... 35  
holde. Saa gøre de og tage Land under et Næs ved Kvæld.  
Og var der Baad ved Næsset, og der boede Herjulf, Bjarnes Fader, paa det Næs.  
Og af ham har Næsset taget Navn og er siden kaldet Herjulfs Næs. Drog  
Bjarne nu til Fader sin. Og opgiver nu Sejlingen og bliver hos Fader sin,  
medens Herjulf levede, og siden boede han der efter Faderen sin. .... 40

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

very proud, but Thorvard was a little man, she was chiefly given to him for his wealth's sake. Heathen were the people in Greenland at that time. That same summer came Biarne with his ship to Eyrar<sup>1</sup>), when his father had sailed away in the spring. This tiding seemed to Biarne great, and would he not unload his ship. Then ask-  
5 ed his crew, what he intended; but he answers, that he meant to ..... keep to his wont and take with his father winter-abode; and will I go with the ship to Greenland, if you will me company bear. All replied, his advice would they follow. Then quoth Biarne: unwitty may be thought our voyage, since none of us has come into the Greenland sea. But yet put  
10 t they now out to sea, as soon as they were ready, and sailed for three days, until the land was hidden under the water; but the fair wind failed, and changed into north-winds and fogs, and knew they not, whither they went, and lasted this many days. Thereafter got they sight of the sun, and could distinguish the airts; hoist now sail, and sail that day, ere they saw land, and deliberated with each-other, what land that might be; and Biarne professed to think, that might not be Greenland. They ask, whether he will sail to this  
15 land or not. It is my counsel to sail close to the land. And so do they, and saw that soon, that the land was mountain-less and wood-grown and small hills on the land; and left the land on larboard and let the sheet turn toward land. After that they sail for two days, ere they saw another land. They ask, whether Biarne supposed this was Greenland yet. He quoth no more to think this to be Greenland than the former. For  
20 glaciers are very large said to be in Greenland. They approached soon this land and saw it to be a flat land and widely wooded. Then failed the fair wind them. Then uttered the men, that to them seemed best to take that land, but Biarne will not. They pretended to lack both wood and water. Of neither of these are you unprovided,  
25 says Biarne; but, though, got he for this some blame from his men. He bade ..... then hoist sail, and so was done, and set the stem from the land and sail to sea with south-westerly wind for three days, and saw then the third land; and this land was high and mountainous and with glaciers on it. They ask then, if Biarne would to land lay there, but he quoth, he would not, because to me appears this land unprofitable.  
30 Now they did not lower their sail, go a-head along the land and saw, that it was an island, ..... set again the stern toward this land and hold out to sea with the same fair wind, but the wind waxed at once, and bade Biarne then to reef, and not sail faster than both would suit well their ship and rigging. Sailed now for four days. Then saw they land, the fourth. Then asked they Biarne, whether he thought this to be Greenland or not.  
35 Biarne answers: this is likest that, which to me has been told about Greenland, and here may we to the land... steer. So they do and take land below some ness at eve-tide. And was there boat at the ness, and there dwelt Heriulf, Biarne's father, on that ness. And from him the ness has taken name, and is afterwards called Heriulf's ness. Went Biarne now to his father. And gives now up his sailing and stays with his father,  
40 while Heriulf lived, and afterwards dwelt he there after his father: .....





**At** er þ' heyr grænlen smaga þátt. capítul  
ni þu næst at biarne hólpi þ' so vát  
ap gúnde apund átt þ' z tok þ' v' hni vt  
ságe biarne þ' þáu hni e' h' hapté lund  
set z þóttu in h' vt hapa vpozat e' hni  
hapté ebbi at segia af þ' hndu z þeb h' ap þ' nobbur amed  
biarne gódet hnd mads þ' z þos vt t' gúnde v' hndu epc  
vát ni nubil dmi vata vni luda lóttan. lepr þ' átt pau  
ta o' brata hlyd þos apund biarna hólpi son z þeypre  
þip at hni z þed til hálta hna at þ' v' halpr þosde tóss  
ma sam. lepr þad gni þodur átt at h' mde en þ' va þos  
mie. átt taldrat hells undan buetst þa va hni þ' alls  
z buetst mma mega v' uole aulla e' v. lepr q' h' en mdu  
mest heill átt af þ' vndu z þáa let átt epc t' z vát h  
emá þa e' þ' átt at þu bund z v' þa skamt at þa t' þepst



THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

3

Þat er Her hefr Grœnlendingha þaatt. Capitulum  
nu þessu næst, at Biarnne Heriulfs son kom vtan  
af Grenlande afund Æireks jalls, ok tok jall vid honum vel,  
sagde Biarnne fra ferdum sinum, er han hafde lond  
set, ok þotti monnum han verit hafa vforvitin, er han .....50

hafde ekki at segia af þeim londum, ok fek han af þui nokkut amæli.

Biarnne gerðist hrdmadr jalls, ok for vt til Grenlandz vm sumarit eftir,  
var nu mikil vmræda vm landa læitan. Leifr, son Æireks rau.

da ór Brattahljð, for a fund Biarna Heriulfs sonar ok keyfte

skip at honum, ok red til haseta, sua at þeir voru halfr fjorde tðgr .....55

manna saman. Leifr bad sin fodur Æirek, at han mundi enn firir vera för

inne. Æirekr taldizst helldr undan, kuetzst þa vera hnigin j alldr,

ok kuetzst minna mega vid uose aullu en var. Leifr quedr han enn mundu

mestri heill styra af þeim frændum, ok þetta let Æirekr eftir Leifi ok ridr h.

eiman, þa er þeir eru at þui bunir, ok var þa skamt at fara til skipsins. ....60



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|   |                                      |    |
|---|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>D</b> ernæst er  | Her er Fortællingen om Grönlænderne. |    |
| nu at fortælle, at Bjarne Herjulfssön kom ude   |                                      |    |
| fra Grönland og besøgte Erik Jarl, og Jarlen tog vel imod ham.                          |                                      |    |
| Bjarne fortalte om sine Rejser, da han havde Lande                                      |                                      |    |
| set, og tyktes det mange, at han havde været uvidebegærlig, eftersom han                | .....                                | 50 |
| intet havde at sige om disse Lande, og fik han derfor nogen Dadel.                      |                                      |    |
| Bjarne gjordes til Jarlens Hirdmand, og drog ud til Grönland Sommeren efter;            |                                      |    |
| der var nu megen Tale om Landopdagelser. Lejf, Sön af Erik rö-                          |                                      |    |
| de fra Brattelid, drog ud at besøge Bjarne Herjulfssön og købte                         |                                      |    |
| Skib af ham, og hvervede Folk dertil, saa at de var haløfferde Ti <sup>1)</sup>         | .....                                | 55 |
| Mand ialt. Lejf bad sin Fader Erik, at han vilde være Anfører paa                       |                                      |    |
| Rejsen. Erik undskyldte sig, og anførte at være for meget til Aars                      |                                      |    |
| og mindre istand end før til at taale Söens Besværligheder. Lejf sagde, han endda monne |                                      |    |
| med mest Held styre Frænderne, og da gav Erik efter for Lejf, og rider hv-              |                                      |    |
| jemme fra, da de vare færdige, og var der kort at fare til Skibet.                      | .....                                | 60 |

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<sup>1)</sup> 35

THE FLATEY BOOK.

*English Translation.*

To be told is                      Here is the history of the Greenlanders.  
now next, that Biarne Herjulfsson came out  
from Greenland to visit Eric Earl, and received the Earl him well.  
Biarne told of his travels, when he had lands  
50                      seen, and was thought by many to have been incurious, as he .....  
had not to tell of these lands, and was he on account of this somewhat slandered .  
Biarne was made the Earl'sman, and went out to Greenland the summer after.  
Was there now much speaking of land-seeking . Leif, son of Eric the  
red from Brattalid, went to visit Biarne Herjulfsson and bought  
55 ship of him, and hired a crew, so that there were three tens and a half <sup>1)</sup> .....  
men together. Leif begged his father Eric, if he would a leader be on  
the expedition. Eric excused himself, said he was too old in age  
and said he could not endure the troubles of the sea as before. Leif said, he yet might  
with best luck rule them, the kinsmen, and then Eric yielded to Leif and rode  
60 from home, when they were ready, and there was not far to go to the ship . -----





dæpnefistum þeim þá er ætíð xnd þell þ ap tabe z tæst  
 þær þi þa mli ætíð ebbi nū in ætíð at þma lōnd þlewe ē  
 þā er nū þygnū v mūnū uat nū ebbi leingr þallē tæ  
 þoz ætíð heit þ tæta hlud ē leingr tædæ t lōn z þelas þi m  
 þm hāþr þroz tōgr mā þ nār lūdz m æm þ þd ē tgræþ  
 þet nū þygnū þr þip ilz z lōldu þ hāþ þa þr b bini z  
 þundu þa þ tnd þyð et þr biatne þunduzidaz. þ sigla  
 þr at tnd z kōtūðr æbbēn z þuru. tate z þ a tnd z þa þ  
 et gral ioklar mybler v alio hit epra ē tē æm hella v all  
 t il ioklana þra slonū z lundazt þ þ tnd vā gæd laut  
 þa mli t æ er olt nū þ oydū ū þā tnd tē b. at ū hāþi ē  
 tæm atndæ nū mli eb gæpa nāþi tndmū z balla hellu  
 litan þoz þr til þipf eptet þā sigla þr þ hāþ z þundu tō anæ  
 sigla en at tnd z kōtūðr æbbēn þiara litan tate z gga atndæ  
 þ tnd nār slæ z tōgi uat z sandar hūz mli þar tē þr þ  
 z osetzæ. þa mli t ap þatū tē þu tnd nāþi gæp z balla  
 mæst tnd þoz litan opæ apæ til þipf tē þhordazt nū  
 sigla þr þadæ þ hāþ tndgrōngi uedz z uozu vū þ dæ  
 æt þr tē tē z siglaū at tnd z kōmū at ei enie ē þa nōd  
 ap tndmū z ggu þar upi z læst v þ godu uedz z þundu  
 þ at dōg uat gædāmū z uard þ þ þ z uard þ þ þ at þr tō  
 tū tndū tndū þ dōgma z þygnū mli s z þotæst æbbi ap  
 tleat tæte hāþa tēn þ uat litan þ þr tē þipf tnd z sigl  
 du. þ lund. þ et la mille cymarmar z hest þest er nōd gæb  
 ap tndmū tēpnū þ uat æt þ nēst þar uat gūlæpū m  
 tæ at þroz tōpæ z tōd þa upi þip þra z uat þa lāg  
 til tōp at tē þra tēpnū ē þ uat tūo mibil þozu tnd a at  
 þara til tēstū at þr nentū æ þest at tēd at tōz þellē  
 tē tēpnū þra z unū til tōz þar ē a æm þell g uatne æmū ē  
 þeg tōz þell und tēpnū þra þa tōbu þr tæm z tēu tēpnū



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

## *Icelandic Text.*

Drepr hestrinn/ fœti, sa er Æirekr reid, ok fell han af baki ok lestizst  
 fotr hans; þa mælti Æirekr: ekki mun mer ætlat at finna lönd fleire en  
 þetta er nu byggium ver; munum uer nu ekki leingr fara aller samt.  
 For Æirekr heim j Bratta hlið; en Leifr redzst til skips ok felagar hans med/  
 honum; halfr fiorde tóg manna/. Þar uar sudr maðr æinn j ferd; er Tyrker ..... 5  
 het. Nu biuggu þeir skip sitt ok sigldu j haf þa er þeir voru búnir; ok/  
 fundu þa þat land/ fyst er þeir Biarnu/ fundu/ sidazst/. Þar sigla/  
 þeir at lande ok kostude akkerum ok skulu/ bate, ok foru a land; ok sa þar  
 æigi gras; ioklar mykler voru allt hit efra; en sem æin/ hella/ væri all/  
 t til/ ioklanna/ fra sionum; ok syndizst þeim þat/ land/ vera/ gæda/ laust. .... 10  
 Þa mælti Leifr: æigi eross nu þat ordit um þetta land; sem Biarna; at uer hafim eigi/  
 komit a landit. Nu mun/ ek/ gefa nafn/ landinu ok kalla/ Helliuland/.  
 Sidan foru þeir til skips; efter þetta sigla þeir j haf ok fundu/ land/ annal/  
 Sigla enn at lande ok kastu akkerum; skiota sidan/ bate ok ganga a landit/.  
 Þat land uar slett ok skogi uaxit ok sandar huitir vida/ þar sem þeir foru/ ..... 15  
 ok osæbratt. Þa mælti Leifr: af kostum skal þessu lande nafn/ gef, ok kalla/  
 Mark/ land. Foru sidan ofan aftr til skips sem fliotazst. Nu/  
 sigla þeir þadan j haf landnyrdings uedr ok uoru öti ij deyr  
 adr þeir sa land/ ok sigldu at lande ok komu at ey einne er la norðr  
 af landinu; ok geingu þar upp ok sazt om j godu uedri ok fundu ..... 20  
 þat at dōgg uar a grasinu ok uard þeim þat firir, at þeir to/  
 ku hondum sinum/ j dōgina; ok brugdu j munu ser; ok þottuzst ekki iaf/  
 nnsætt kent hafua; sem þat var. Sidan foru þeir til skips sins ok sigl/  
 du j sund/ þat er la/ mille eyiarinar ok ness þess, er norðr gek/  
 af landinu; stefnu j uestr ætt firir nesit; þar uar gronsefui m ..... 25  
 ikit at fioru siofar; ok stod þa uppi skip þeirra/ ok uar þa/ langt  
 til siofar at sia/ fra/ skipinu. En þeinu uar suo mikil forvitnu a at  
 fara til landzins; at þeir nentu æigi þess at bida; at siorr felle uu/  
 dir skip þeirra; ok runnu til landz; þar er a æin fell ór uattne einu. En/  
 þegar siorr fell uðir skip þeirra; þa toku þeir batinu ok reru til skip ..... 30



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Danish Translation.*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Hesten, som Erik red, snublede, og faldt han af og saarede<br>sin Fod; da sagde Erik: ikke mon være mig bestemt at finde flere Lande end<br>dette, som vi nu bebo; monne vi nu ikke længer følges alle sammen.  |    |
| Drog Erik hjem til Brattelid, men Lejf begav sig til Skibet og hans Stalbrødre med<br>ham, halvserdsindsti <sup>1)</sup> Mænd. Der var en Sydlænder med paa Toget, som hed  | 5  |
| Tyrker. Nu lavede de Skibet i Stand og sejlede ud paa Havet, da de vare færdige; og<br>fandt da det Land først, som Bjarne's fandt sidst. Der sejlede<br>de til Land og kastede Anker og skød Baaden ud og gik i Land og saa der<br>intet Græs; store Jökler var at se langt borte, men som en Stenslette var alt<br>lige til Jöklerne fra Söen, og syntes dem dette Land at være uden Goder. | 10 |
| Da sagde Lejf: ikke er det nu gaaet os med dette Land, som Bjarne, at vi ikke have<br>været i Land. Nu vil jeg give Navn til Landet og kalde det Helleland <sup>2)</sup><br>Siden drog de til Skibet, og derefter sejlede de ud paa Havet og fandt et andet Land,<br>sejle igen til Land og kaste Anker, skyde saa Baad ud og gaa i Land.   |    |
| Det Land var fladt og skovbevoxet og hvide Sande vidtom, hvor de kom frem,  | 15 |
| og ikke brat mod Söen. Da sagde Lejf: efter Beskaffenheden skal dette Land gives Navn og kaldes<br>Markland <sup>3)</sup> Drog siden efter til Skibet som snarest. Nu<br>sejlede de derfra ud i Havet med Nordöstvind og vare ude i to Dage,<br>inden de saa Land, og sejlede mod Land og kom til en Ö, som laa norden-   |    |
| for Landet, og gik der op og saa sig omkring i godt Vejr og fandt,  | 20 |
| at der var Dug paa Græsset, og gik det dem da saaledes, at de to-<br>ge med deres Hænder i Duggen og førte til deres Mund, og tyktes ikke<br>lignende södt at have kendt, som det var. Siden drog de til Skibet deres og sejl-  |    |
| ede ind i et Sund, som laa mellem Öen og det Næs, som mod Nord gik<br>ud af Landet; stævnede vester paa forbi Næsset; der var meget grundt  | 25 |
| ved Lavvande, og stod da deres Skib paa Grund, og var der langt<br>til Vandet at se fra Skibet. Men de vare saa meget begærlige efter at<br>komme til Landet, at de nænte ikke at bie paa, at Vandet steg un-   |    |
| der deres Skib, og løb i Land der, hvor en Aa faldt ud fra en Sö. Men<br>saa snart Vandet steg under deres Skib, da tog de Baaden og roede til Skib   | 30 |

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- The horse stumbled, which Eric rode, and fell he off from its back and hurt his foot, then quoth Eric: not is for me fated to find more lands than this where we now dwell, we now no longer may follow together.
- 5 Went Eric home to Brattalid, and Leif went to the ship, and his fellows with him, three tens and a half<sup>1)</sup> men. There was a southern man with them, who Tyrker ..... was called. Now they built their ship and went to sea, when they had finished, and found then that land first, which Biarne's found last. There sailed
- 10 they to land and cast anchor and put out the boat and went ashore and saw there no grass, large ice-mountains were seen far away, but like one stonefield was all to the ice-mountains from the sea, and seemed to them this land to be good for nothing. .... Then quoth Leif: not to us has it happened with this land as to Biarne, that we have not got upon the land. Now I will give name to the land and call it Helluland.<sup>2)</sup>
- 15 Afterwards they went to the ship, and then sailed they on the sea and found another land, sail again to land and cast anchor; then put out the boat and get ashore, that land was level and wood-covered and wide white sands, wherever they went, .... and not steep at the shore. Then quoth Leif: After its quality shall this land have name, and be called Markland.<sup>3)</sup> Went after that to the ship as fast as possible. Now
- 20 sailed they from thence on the sea before a northeast and were out for two days, ere they saw land, and sailed to this land and came to an island, which lay to the north of the land, and went up there and looked about in fine weather and found, .... that there was dew on the grass, and it happened to them, that they touched the dew with their hands and brought to their mouths, and thought not to have known anything so sweet as this was. Afterwards they went to their ship and sail ..
- 25 ed into a sound, that lay between the island and that cape, which went to the north from the land, steering to the west of the cape, there was very shallow ..... at ebb-tide, and stood there aground their ship, and was there far to the sea to see from the ship. Yet they were so very curious to go ashore, that they could not bide, that the high-water would rise under their ship, but ran to the land, where a river fell into the sea from a lake. But
- 30 as soon as the tide rose under their ship, they took the boat and rowed to the ship .....





skil z plutu þ upp s'ana tida s' uatnir z bottudu þ abbuni  
 z tann ap skipe hudpöt sm z gdu þ bud' toku þ ead s'ida.  
 at buaza þar v þu uerir z gdu þar huf mibil hugarbe st  
 ora þar lay s'anie ne s' uatninn z stöira lay e þu hepar  
 þu löt þar uat suo gods tindr stöir at þu er þ uindir  
 at þar mde arnge þengs þods þuþa dvetu. þar þus  
 mu ænge þuot dvetu z lit renudu þar grauf meira  
 uat þar iopnðgvi e æglnðe ed uind sol hapt þ eybe  
 tad z lagmala stad um skaydegi e er þu hoptu laka þ  
 gð snie þa mli. t. v þueya sta nu ul eb skipta lata hde v  
 s' y state z ul eb beia lata hde z þ helmigr hof va v  
 skala heima e dñar helmigr þ kaia stöir z þa æ leigra  
 e þu bonu hea at buellde z skilist ænu gdu þu suo v stöir  
 t. gde ymizt at þ þoz m; þ ed uat heia at skala. t. u mub  
 ill mads z stöir mla skosligazth at sta vtar m z gods  
 hopt mady mñ alla hluti lepr þu hepar þu mñ a hapi  
 æm hñm e uellde þar þ ul tinda at m uat ær  
 æp hde þra z v þ tñr' hñs m. t. þuie þ stöilla  
 þuuar tñr' hapt leinge vñ m; þ þedgñ z el  
 stæz mñg. t. s' harnæsbñ talde lepr nu mñg alind þ  
 uatninn stann z biezit al þar at leira hñ z yñ m m; hñ  
 en e þu v skenit komm þra skola þa æk tñr' s' mof þ.  
 z uat hñ v þ paguar. t. þan þ dæc at þotva hñ van sta  
 þ þar þ v þat leir z lauseggv s'na stöirg s' andlra þ  
 all uerit z uelaligv e þ þotva mady a allabonar hagler þ  
 mli t. ul hñ hñ vñ suo stöir þot nñ z þibile þueyrinu þ  
 talde þa þot leige a þuorbu z stöir margauega angu  
 mñ z æræm sig e þu stöir æ huar v þ sagde þ mli þa æ uat  
 ærenu er stund leir eb v geigi æ nuyblu leingra e þa þa  
 eb nobbir nijnome at segia eb þan vñ vñ z vñ b. mñ



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

sins ok fluttu þat upp j ana; sidan j uattnit ok kostuðu þar akkerum.  
ok baru af skipe hufót sin ok gerðu þar búðir; tóku þat rad sidan  
at buazst þar um þann uetr ok gerðu þar hús mikil. Huorke sk-  
orti þar lax j anne ne j uattninu, ok stærra lax en þeir hefde  
fyrr set. Þar uar suo godr landrkostr, at þui er þeim syndiz/ ..... 35  
at þar munde æinge fenadr fodr þurfa a uetrum. Þar kuo-  
mu æinge frost a uetrum, ok litt renudu þar graus. Meira  
uar þar iafnndegrir en a Grænlande edr Islande. Sol hafde þar eyktar-  
stad ok Dagmala stad um skamdegi. En er þeir höfdu lokit hús-  
gerd sinne, þa mælti Leifr við foruneyti sitt: nu vil ek skila lata lide voru ..... 40  
j ið stade, ok vil ek kanna lata landit; ok skal helmingr lids vera vit  
skala heima, en annar helmingr skall kanna landit ok fara æigi leingra,  
en þeir komi heim at kuelde ok skilazst æigi. Nu gerðu þeir suo um stund.  
Leifr gerde ymist, at þan for með þeim edr uar heima at skala. Leifr uar mik-  
ill madr ok sterkr, manna sköruligastr at sia, vitr madr ok godr ..... 45  
hofs madrum alla hluti. Leifr hinn hepn fann menn i skerri a hafu.  
**A** æin hueriu kuelde bar þat til tidenda, at manna uar vant  
af lide þeirra, ok var þat Tyrker sudr madr. Leifr kunne þui stöilla  
þuiat Tyrker hafde leinge verit með þeim fedgum ok el-  
skat miog Leif j barnnæsku. Talde Leifr nu miog a hendr foru ..... 50  
nautum sinum ok biozt til ferdar at læta hans, ok xii menn með honum.  
En er þeir voru skamt komnir fra skala, þa gek Tyrker j mot þeim.  
ok uar honum vel fagnat. Leifr fann þat brátt, at fostra hans var ska-  
p fítt; han var bratt læitr ok lauseygr, smaskitligr j andliti, li-  
till uexsti ok uesaligr, en j þrotta madr a allrskonar hagleik. Þa ..... 55  
mælti Leifr til hans: hui vartu suo sœinn, fostri min, ok fraskile foruneytinu. Han  
talade þa fyst leinge a þyrsku ok skaut marga uega augu-  
num ok gretti sig, en þeir skildu æigi huat er han sagde; han mælti þa a nor-  
ænna er stund leid, ek uar geingin æigi myklu leingra en þit kan  
ek nokkur rymæme at segia, ek faru vin við ok vin ber. Mun ..... 60



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Danish Translation.*

et og førte det op i Aaen; derefter i Söen og kastede der Anker,  
 og bare fra Skibet deres Skindposer og byggede der Boder; tog den Beslutning siden  
 at boele der den Vinter og byggede der et stort Hus. Hverken skort-  
 ede det der paa Læx i Aaen eller i Söen, og større Læx end de havde  
 för set. Der var saa gode Land-Betingelser, at det syntes dem, at ..... 35  
 der maatte ingen Kvæg Fodring behöves om Vinteren. Der kom  
 ingen Frost om Vinteren, og lidet visnede der Græsset. Mere  
 var der lige Længde för Nat og Dag end paa Grönland eller Island. Solen havde der Eyktar  
 Stad<sup>4)</sup> og Dagmala Stad<sup>5)</sup> paa den korteste Dag. Men da de havde lavet Hus -  
 bygningen deres, da sagde Lejf til sine Kammerater: nu vil jeg lade dele Flokken vor ..... 40  
 i to Dele, og vil jeg lade undersöge Landet; og skal den halve Flok være ved  
 Hallen hjemme, men den anden Halvdel skal undersöge Landet og drage ikke længere bort,  
 end at de kunne komme hjem om Aftenen, og skilles ikke. Nu gjorde de saaledes en Tid.  
 Lejf gjorde skiftevis, saa at han drog ud med dem eller var hjemme ved Hallen. Lejf var en  
 stor Mand og stærk, en Mand der var mandig at se, en klög Mand og en ..... 45  
 maadeholden Mand i alle Dele: Lejf den lykkelige fandt Folk paa et Skær i Havet.  
**P**aa en Aften bragtes den Tidende, at en Mand blev savnet  
 i deres Trop, og var det Tyrker, Sydlænderen. Lejf fölte derved stor Uro,  
 saasom Tyrker havde længe været med ham og hans Fader og elsket  
 Lejf meget i dennes Barndom. Talte Lejf nu meget haardt til ..... 50  
 sine Følgesvende og böd til Tog för at opsöge ham, og XII Mænd med ham.  
 Men da de vare kort Vej komne fra Hallen, saa gik Tyrker dem imöde,  
 og blev han vel modtaget. Lejf fandt strax ud, at Fosterfaderen hans var  
 ophidset. Han var höjpanDET, med urolige Öjne; smaa Fregner i Ansigtet, li-  
 den af Væxt og ubetydelig; men Idrætsmand med alskens Kunstfærdighed. Da ..... 55  
 sagde Lejf til ham: hoi var du saa sön, Fosterfader min, og skiltes fra Kammeraterne. Han  
 talede da först længe i sit sydlandske Maal og rullede meget med Öj-  
 nene og gjorde Ansigter; men de forstod ikke, hvad han sagde, han talte da paa Nor-  
 disk, efter at en Stund var gaaet: Jeg var gaaet ikke meget længere; dog kan  
 jeg noget nyt sige; jeg fandt Vintræer og Vinbær. Mon ..... 60

<sup>1)</sup>35

<sup>2)</sup>Stenlandet

<sup>3)</sup>Skovlandet

<sup>4)</sup>gik ned efter Kl.3

<sup>5)</sup>stod op för Kl.9

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

and conveyed it up the river, afterwards into the lake and cast there anchor,  
and brought from the ship their leatherbags and made there booths, took that resolution afterwards  
to abide there for that winter and made there a large house. Neither wanted  
there salmon in the river nor in the lake, and larger salmon than they had  
35 before seen. There were so good land-qualities, that it seemed to them, .....  
that there might no cattle fodder be wanted in winter time. There came  
no frost in winter, and little withered the grass. More  
was there equal length of day and night than in Greenland or Iceland. The sun had there Eyktar-  
stað<sup>1</sup> and Dagmala Stað<sup>2</sup> on the shortest day. But when they had made their  
40 house-building, Leif said to his fellows: now I will let our company be divided .....  
into II parts, and I will let the land be explored, and one half of the party shall remain  
at home, while the other half shall explore the land, and go not farther away,  
than that they can return in the evening, and not be separated. Now they did so for a while.  
Leif acted alternately, going out with them or staying at home in the hall. Leif was a very  
45 tall man and vigorous, a man most valiant to see, a wise man and a very .....  
moderate man in all regards. Leif the happy found men on a skerry at sea.

On one evening came the tiding, that a man was wanted  
of their troupe, and that was Tyrker, the southern man. Leif was very troubled by this,  
because Tyrker had been long with his father and himself and loved  
50 much Leif in his childhood. Leif now severely blamed his com- .....  
panions and ordered an expedition in search of him, and XII men with him.  
But as they were gone a short way from the hall, Tyrker went to meet them,  
and he was well received. Leif found out at once, that his fosterfather was  
°° excited. He had a large forehead, and restless eyes, small freckles in his face,  
55 a low stature and unseemly, but a man foremost in all sports. Then .....  
Leif said to him: why wert thou so late, foster-father mine, and partedst from thy comrades. He  
spoke then first a long time in his southern tongue and rolled much his eyes  
and made wry faces, but they did not understand what he said; he spoke then in  
northern language after a while: I have walked not much farther, yet I can  
60 something curious relate: I found wine-trees and wineberries. May .....

---

<sup>1</sup>35   <sup>2</sup>The stony land   <sup>3</sup>Woodland   <sup>4</sup>Sunset after 3 P.M.   <sup>5</sup>Sunrise before 9 A.M.





þæt þæt post min q̄t. at viliu ē  
 þæðs er hugbe þæðs nīd nī  
 nōt ē v̄ moðum mī lepr v̄  
 tucnau sylsuv þæt z s̄ nīd  
 hōgut vīvud z þella mōzben  
 mīnū z þæt v̄ vādē veda lūo ē  
 gillōz ap vīn bū nu v̄ hōgmī þm̄v asbūp z ē ugar þa b  
 iuguzt þr z sigldu b̄r z gap lepr napn lūdmu ept b̄  
 bōtū z þallað vīlūnd sigla nu s̄a s̄ hap z gap þ v̄ b̄y  
 þ t̄ ē þr s̄a gūnd z pioll und iobū þa toð æmī nī t̄ mals  
 z mī v̄ lepr hū s̄a þu lūo moð mīd ueda s̄būm̄. f. s̄  
 eb hys at s̄iōn mīne en þo v̄ at plara eðs hūto s̄a þr t̄  
 nēnā. þr buoduzt ebbi s̄a þer v̄bēdū s̄a. eb nēv v̄  
 s̄eg. f. hūozt eb s̄e s̄būp eðs s̄bē. nu s̄a þr z quodu s̄. v̄a. h̄  
 s̄a þu þrām ē þr at h̄ s̄a m̄ s̄ s̄bēnū. nu ul eb at v̄ h̄  
 tīm und ueda s̄eg. f. hūo at nā t̄ þr ex m̄ etu þurpū  
 at nā noz þūnce z ē naudlūn at at dūga þ. ē m̄ þu at  
 þr s̄e v̄ p̄nd nī þa v̄gū v̄ allan bōt und all ē þr ebbīnd  
 s̄er nu v̄bēdū þr und s̄er z lēgdu lūc bōtūdu abbi z s̄bū  
 tu lūlū h̄a d̄az ē þr hōpdu h̄apt m̄ s̄ þa s̄p̄e t̄ybu h̄u  
 þar v̄de þr h̄a. s̄a buerzt þaz h̄eīa z v̄a nozēn m̄ at  
 b̄yue eðs h̄u ē þr napn lepr s̄eg. f. s̄m̄ etu s̄on æt̄ s̄a  
 ut̄a s̄s b̄ara h̄lud s̄eg. f. q̄ lūo v̄a nu ul eb s̄eg. f. bioda  
 yðs ollū am̄t s̄būp z þemūnū þ ē s̄būp m̄ v̄ v̄aba þr þ  
 agū þr bōt z sigldu s̄iōn t̄l æt̄ p̄and m̄s̄ þ p̄mī þ t̄le  
 þr bōmū z b̄ara h̄lud h̄arū p̄am̄ ap s̄eīpe s̄iōn t̄lū  
 d̄t. þon t̄ v̄l̄at m̄s̄ s̄er z quozt bōmū h̄i z m̄ m̄m̄ quoz  
 en þeð m̄t̄ audz h̄asēn b̄dē þon z s̄m̄ p̄elōgū. f. v̄b  
 x̄o m̄ s̄ s̄bēnū h̄ n̄ar s̄iōn ballads. f. h̄m̄ h̄epm̄. f. v̄d n  
 u b̄dē gatt t̄ p̄at z m̄dūndm̄. þr n̄et̄ bōm̄ s̄ot m̄b



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

## *Icelandic Text.*

Þat satt, fœstri minn, quæð Leifr. At visu er þatt satt, quæð han, þuiat ek var þar  
 fæddr, er huorke skorti uinvið ne vinber. Nu suofu þeir af þa/  
 nott, en om morgunin mætti Leifr við haseta sina: nú skal hafua/  
 tuennar systur fram, ok skal sinn dag huort lesa vinber edr  
 hoggua vinvið ok fella mórkenar, suo at þat verðe farmr til skips ..... 5  
 mins, ok þetta var rads tekit. Suo er sagt, at eftir batr þeirra var f.  
 ylldr af vinberium. Nu var hogginn farmr a skipit. Ok er uorar, þa b.  
 iugguzst þeir ok sigldu burt, ok gaf Leifr nafn landinu eftir land.  
 kostum ok kallade Vinland. Sigla nu sidan j haf ok gaf þeim vel byri,  
 þar til er þeir sa Grenland ok fioll undir ioklum, þa tok einn madr til mals ..... 10  
 ok mætti við Leif: Hui styrir þu suo miog undir uedr skipinu. Leifr suarar:  
 ek hygg at stiorrn minne, en þo enn at fleira, edr huat seai þer til  
 tidenda. Þeir kuoduzst ekki sea þat er tidendum sætti. Ekke ueit æigi,  
 segir Leifr, huort ek se skip edr sker. Nu sea þeir, ok quodu sker vera; han/  
 sa þui frammar en þeir, at han sa menn j skerinu, nu vil ek, at ver bei ..... 15  
 tim undir uedrit, segir Leifr, suo at naim til þeirra, ef menn eru þurfugir  
 at na uorum funde, ok er nauðsyn a at duga þeim; en með þui at  
 þeir se æigi frid menn, þa æigum ver allan kost undir oss, en þeir ekki undir  
 ser. Nu sækia þeir undir skerit ok lægdu sitt, kostudu akkeri ok skau.  
 tu litlum bati óðrum, er þeir hófdu haft með sér. Þa spurde Tyrker, huer ..... 20  
 þar rede firir lide, sa kuetast þorir heita ok vera norænn madr at  
 lafne, edr huert er þitt nafn. Leifr segir til sin. Ertu son Æireks ra.  
 uða ór Bratta hlid, segir han. Leifr quæð suo vera; nu vil ek, segir Leifr, bida/  
 yðr ollum a mitt skip ok femunum þeim, er skipit ma við taka. Þeir þ.  
 agu þann kost ok sigldu sidan til Æireks fiardar með þeim farmi, þar til er ..... 25  
 þeir komu til Bratta hlidar. Baru farmir af skipe. Sidan bau.  
 d. Leifr þori til vistar með ser, ok Gudride, konu hans, ok iij monnum audrum/  
 en fekk uistir af þrum lasetum bæde þoris ok sinum félögum. Leifr tok  
 xv menn ór skerinu. Han uar sidan kalladr Leifr hinn hepn. Leifr vart n.  
 u bæde gott til fiar ok mannaurdingar. Þann uetr kom soth miki. .... 30



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|  |    |
|--|----|
| det er sandt, Fosterfader min, sagde Lejf. Tilvisse er det sandt, sagde han, thi jeg blev der<br>født, hvor det hverken skortede paa Vintræer eller Vindruer. Nu sov de den<br>Nat, men om Morgen sagde Lejf til Besætningen sin: nu skal vi have<br>toende Sysler for, og skal hver Dag enten samle Druer eller<br>hugge Vintre og fælde Skov, saa at det kan vorde Ladning til Skibet ..... 5                        | 5  |
| mit; og dette Raad blev fulgt. Saa er sagt, at deres Storbaad blev f-<br>yldt med Vindruer. Nu blev hugget Ladning til Skibet. Og da det blev Vaar, da<br>gjorde de klar og sejlede bort, og gav Lejf Navn til Landet efter Land-<br>produkterne og kaldte det Vinland. Sejlede nu siden ud i Havet og havde god Bør,<br>indtil de saa Grönland og Fjelde under Jöklerne. Da tog en Mand til Orde ..... 10             | 10 |
| og sagde til Lejf: Hvi styrer Du saa meget Skibet under Vinden. Lejf svarer:<br>jeg passer mit Ror, men dog ogsaa noget mere; men hvad ser I af<br>mærkeligt. De svarede, at de ikke saa noget mærkeligt. Jeg veed ikke,<br>siger Lejf, om jeg ser et Skib eller et Skær. Nu saa de det, og sagde det var et Skær; han<br>saa skarpere end de, saa at han saa Mænd paa Skæret; nu vil jeg, at vi holde ..... 15        | 15 |
| mod Vinden; siger Lejf, saa at vi naa til dem, hvis de ere trængende<br>til at vi komme til dem, og der er Nödvendighed for at hjælpe dem; men hvis at<br>de ikke ere fredelige; da have vi alle Betingelser til vor Fordel, men de ikke til<br>deres. Nu sejlede de ind mod Skæret og lod [Sejlet] gaa, kastede Anker og skød<br>den anden lille Baad ud, som de havde haft med sig. Da spurgte Tyrker, hvem ..... 20 | 20 |
| der raadede for Skaren; han sagde sig hedde Thorer og være Nordmand af<br>Slægt; men hvad er Dit Navn. Lejf siger sit. Er du Søn af Erik Rö<br>de fra Brattelid; siger han. Lejf svarede, saa var det. Nu vil jeg, siger Lejf, byde<br>eder alle ud paa mit Skib og derhos det Gods, som Skibet kan modtage. De<br>toge dette Vilkaar og sejlede siden efter til Eriksfjord med denne Ladning, indtil ..... 25         | 25 |
| de kom til Brattelid. Bragte Ladningen fra Skibet. Siden tilbød<br>Lejf Thorer at bo hos sig med Gudrid, hans Kone, og III Mænd desuden,<br>og fik Ophold andet Steds for Besætningen, baade Thorers og hans egne Fæller. Lejf tog<br>Mennesker fra Skæret. Han blev siden kaldt Lejf den Lykkelige. Lejf var n-<br>u, baade rig paa Gods og Ære. Denne Vinter kom stor Sot ..... 30                                   | 30 |

## THE FLATEY BOOK.

*English Translation.*

- that be true, foster-father mine, quoth Leif. To be sure it is true, quoth he, for I was there  
born, where neither vine nor grapes are scarce. Now slept they through that  
night; but the next morning Leif said to his crew: now we shall have  
two works, and shall every day either gather grapes or  
5 cut vines and fell timber, so that they may be a lading for my ship; -----  
and this advice was taken. So is said, that their aft-boat was f-  
illed with grapes. Now was hevm a lading for the ship. And when spring came, they  
made ready and sailed away; and gave Leif name to the land after the lands  
products and called it Wineland. Sailed now after that to sea and got fair wind,  
10 until they saw Greenland and fells under the glaciers; then took a man to speak -----  
and quoth to Leif: Why steerst thou the ship so much under the wind. Leif answers:  
I take care of my rudder, but of more than that besides; or what do you see of  
remarkable. They answered, that they saw nothing remarkable. I do not know,  
said Leif, if I see a ship or a skerry. Now they saw it, and said it to be a skerry; he  
15 saw yet sharper than they, so that he saw men on the skerry; now I will, that we -----  
beat against the wind, says Leif, so as to get near to them, if they be wanting to be  
found by us, and there is need to assist them, and if  
they are not peaceable, then have we all advantages for us, but they not for  
them. Now they sailed to the skerry and let go[sail], cast anchor and put  
20 out another little boat, which they had had with them. Then Tyrker asked, who -----  
was the leader of the party; he told himself to be called Thorer and to be of northern  
kin; but what is thy name. Leif told it him. Art thou son of Eric the Red  
of Brattalid, says he. Leif replied that so he was. Now I will, says Leif, bid  
you all on my ship and those goods, that the ship will hold. They  
25 accepted those terms, and sailed afterwards to Ericsfirth with the lading, until that -----  
they came to Brattalid. Brought the lading out of the ship. Afterwards  
Leif bade Thorer to dwell with him, and Gudrid, his wife, and III other men,  
but got dwellings for the other men, both Thorer's and his own. Leif took  
XV men from the skerry. He was afterwards called Leif the happy. Leif was n-  
30 ow well off both as to riches and honour. That winter came much sickness -----





51



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

til j lid Þoriss, ok andadizst han Þorir ok mikill hluti lids hans. Þann uel-  
r andadizst ok Eiríkr rauðe. Nu uar umræða mikil um Vinlandz  
fór Leifs, ok Þótti Þorualldr, brodur hans, of o vída kannat hafa ver-  
it landit. Þa mælti Leifr uit Þorualldr: Þu skalt fara með skip mit, brodir, e-  
f þu uill til Vinlandz, ok uil ek þo, at skipit fari adr eftir uide/ ..... 35  
þeim, er Þorir atti j skerinu; ok suo uar gert. Þorualldr fór til Vínlandz.

No biozst Þorualldr til þeirrar ferðar með xxx manna, með um rade Leifs,  
brodur síns. Síðan biuggu þeir skip sitt ok helldu j haf, ok er  
æinge frá sógnu um ferð þeirra, fyrr en þeir komu til Vinlandz, til  
Leifs budar, ok biuggu þar um skip sitt ok satu um kyrt þann uelr, ok ..... 40  
ueiddu fiska til matar sér. En um uorit mælti Þorvalldr, at þeir skyldu bu-  
a skip sitt, ok skyldu eftir batr skipsins ok nokkurir menn með fara firir  
uestan landit ok kanna þar um summarit. Þeim syndizst landit fagurt ok  
skogótt, ok skamt mille skogar ok siofar ok huttir sandar; þar var ey-  
iott miog ok grónsæfui mikit. Þeir fundu huerge manna vistir ne ..... 45  
dyra; en j eyiu einne uestarliga fundu þeir kornu hialm

af tre; æigi fundu þeir flæire manna uerk, ok foru aftr ok quomu  
til Leifs budar at hausti. En at sumri óðru fór Þorualldr firir austan með  
kaup skipit, ok hit nýndra firir landit. Þa gerde at þeim uedr hua-  
st firir andnesu einu, ok rak þa þar upp ok brutu kiolinn undan ski- ..... 50  
pinu, ok höfdu þar langa duol ok böttu skip sitt. Þa mælti

Þorvalldr vit forunauta sína: nu uil ek, at uer ræisim her upp kiolinn  
a nesinu ok kallim Kjafnar nes, ok suo gerdu þeir. Síðan sigla þeir  
þadan j braut ok austr firir landit ok inn j fiardar kjafta, þa  
er þar uoru næstir, ok at höfðu þeim, er þar gek fram; han var allr ..... 55  
skoge uæcin, þa leggja þeir fram skip sín j lægi, ok skiota bry-  
ggium a land ok geingur Þorualldr þar a land upp með alla forunauta sína. Han  
mælti þa: her er fagurt, ok her uillda ek bæ minn ræisa. Ganga síðan til  
skips, ok sia a sandinum inn frá höfðarum iij hæder; ok foru til  
þangat ok sea þar hud keipa iij ok iij menn undir huerium. Þa skip- ..... 60



|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| blandt Thorers Skare, og døde han, Thorer, og en stor Del af hans Skare. Denne Vin-<br>ter døde ogsaa Erik Röde. Nu var Talen meget om Vinlands-<br>færden Lejfs, og tyktes det Thorvald, hans Broder, at utilstrækkeligt var undersøgt<br>Landet. Da sagde Lejf til Thorvald: Du skal fare med mit Skib, Broder,<br>hvis Du vil til Vinland; og vil jeg dog, at Skibet færer først efter det Ved, ..... 35<br>som Thorer havde paa Skæret; og saaledes blev gjort. Thorvald gik til Vinland   | 35                         |
| Nu forberedte Thorvald sig til deres Færd med XXX Mand, med Raadgivning af Lejf,<br>hans Broder. Siden gjorde de deres Skib i Stand, og drog ud paa Havet, og er<br>der ingen Sagn om deres Rejse, før end de kom til Vinland, til<br>Lejfs Boder, og lagde der deres Skib op og sad roligt den Vinter og ..... 40<br>fangede Fisk til Føde for sig. Men om Vaaren sagde Thorvald, at de skulde be-<br>rede Skibet deres, og skulde Skibets Storbaad og nogle Mænd med den fare langs<br>Vestsiden af Landet og undersøge der om Sommeren. Dem tyktes Landet fagert og<br>skovrigt, og kort mellem Skovene og Havet og de hvide Sande; der var Öer<br>mange og meget grundt. De fandt hverken Menneskeboliger eller ..... 45<br>Dyrelejer, men paa en Ö, der laa mod Vest, fandt de et Kornskur<br>af Træ; ikke fandt de flere Menneskeværker, og drog tilbage og kom<br>til Lejfs Boder om Hösten. Men den næste Sommer fór Thorvald österpaa med<br>Handels-Skibet og om paa den nordre Side af Landet. Da fik de et hoast Vejr<br>ud for et Næs, og kastedes op derpaa og bröde Kjölen under Skib- ..... 50<br>et, og havde de der langt Ophold og bödede deres Skib. Da sagde<br>Thorvald til sine Følgesvende: nu vil jeg, at vi rejse her op Kjölen<br>paa Næsset og kalde det Kjalnarnæs, og saaledes gjorde de. Siden sejle de<br>derfra bort og östen om Landet og ind i Fjordmundingen, som<br>der var nær ved, og til et Hoved, som gik ud der; det var ganske ..... 55<br>skovbevoxet; der lægge de først Skibet deres i Leje, og sköd Brygg-<br>gen i Land, og gaar Thorvald op i Landet med alle sine Følgesvende. Han<br>sagde da: her er fagert, og her vilde jeg gerne rejse min Bo. Gik de siden til<br>Skibet og saa paa Sandet indenfor Hovedet III Höje, og drog did<br>hen og saa der III Skindbaade og III Mennesker under hver. Da del- ..... 60 | 40<br>45<br>50<br>55<br>60 |

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

among Thorer's men, and died Thorer and a great deal of his troop. That winter died also Eric the Red. Now there was much speaking of the Wineland-voyage of Leif, and thought Thorvald, his brother, not enough explored to have been the land. Then quoth Leif to Thorvald: thou shalt go out with my ship, brother, if thou wilt go to Wineland, and I will, though, that the ship is to go first for the wood, which Thorer had on the skerry; and so it was done. Thorvald went to Wineland.

- 3      **N**ow Thorvald prepared for their voyage with XXX men, under the advising of Leif, his brother. Afterwards they made ready their ship and put out to sea, and is there no saying of their voyage, before they came to Wineland, to
- 40    Leif's booths, and laid up their ship there and kept quiet that winter and caught fish for their eating. But in the spring Thorvald said, that they should make their ship ready, and should the aft-boat of the ship and some men with it go to the western part of the land and explore there during the summer. To them seemed the land wooded, and not far from the woods to the sea and the white sands, there were fair and
- 45    many islands and shallows. They found dwellings neither of men nor of beasts, but in one of the western islands they found a corn-shed of wood, not found they more works of man, and went back and came to Leif's booths at harvest-time. But the next summer Thorvald went eastwards with the merchant-ship, and to the north of the land. Then came upon them a hard weather
- 50    off a ness, and were driven on shore there and broke the keel under the ship, and had there a long delay and mended their ship. Then said Thorvald to his followers: now I will, that we raise here up the keel on the ness and call it Kjalnar Ness<sup>1)</sup>, and so they did. Afterwards they sail from thence away and to the east of the land and into the firth-mouth, that
- 55    was there next to it, and to a headland, which sprang forth there; it was all wood-grown, there they make first their ship fast, and put out the gang-board to the shore, and goes Thorvald there on shore with all his followers. Quoth he then: here is fair, and here would I raise my abode. Went afterwards to the ship and saw on the sands within the headland III hills, and went
- 60    there and saw there III leather-boats and III men under each of them. Then they di-

---

<sup>1)</sup> the ness of the keel





tu þu ulla sinu z hopdu lund  
u; þe þu sin þu dæpa hma  
z lizet þar v z lizet in þ  
u þu þu byggd. ept þu lo  
mattu æ uobu hallaðok  
þ þa suo at þu uoknudu  
uallz z alt þneyre þar. ep  
þu þu z aller in þm ob  
sian ept þuomū v tal hud  
boelpa z lögau at þ. þu mli þa v  
sem þera vt alor vögpleba z  
viazet sem þezt e nega lit f  
mor suo ga þu en lörælingar  
sturu æpa vin stund e þhja  
fidan f buert sem abapazd  
huv sem malm þa spurde þu.  
me lina ep þu uere nobbit  
sar. þu buoduzet æ lör va.  
eb he þu þuengit sar und  
hndi sed þu z plo þu nulle  
þuip lörælm z lialldærm  
under hndi m z er her  
ozm en mū miz þu til  
ana leida nu vord eb at  
þu buert þu yda sem þu  
löræst aptu alor en en þu  
þu þu þu mik alhopda þu  
er mer þu þu bugi ligazet  
va ma þu va at m hapu  
sar anumi þu at eb mū  
þu þu a vin stund þu þu  
þu mik gpa z letia bita  
at hopd m z at þu z  
þu þu þu brota nel iapna  
lida. Greit v þu þu  
þu en þu andærest ær  
saud þu þu. nu andærest  
þu uallz. e þu gdu alt  
ept þu sem h hapde mli  
z þu lizet z hma þu  
þu þu lina z lögdu  
huv oðr lik narna se  
vistu z lizet þu þu  
uett z þu uett z vin  
vid e þu lina. nu buazet  
þu vin uett ept al greit  
z þuomū þu þu lina f ær  
þu z þu f at lögia mik  
il vande þu en en þu  
andærest vett þu  
at hapde gza t narna m;  
agutōi at þu en f ær.  
þu hapde þuonget z  
þuengit gudizet þu  
þuarnar dæ e at hapde  
þu dæst nu e þu var  
þu lög. nu þu þu  
þu en ær son at þu t  
vinfa ept like þu  
allaz þu d lina z



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

tu þeir lide sinu ok hófdu hendr a þeim öllum nema einn komast j burt med keip sinn. Þeir drepa hina vñj ok ganga sidan afr a hófðan ok siazst þar om ok sia inn j fjordinn hæder nokkurar, ok ætlud/-  
u þeir þat vera bygdir. Eftir þat slo a þa hofga suo miklum, at þeir mattu æigi uoku hallda ok sofna þeir aller. Þa kom kall y- .....5  
fir þa suo at þeir uoknuðu aller. Suo segir kallit: uaki þu, Þor-  
ualldr ok allt foruneyte þitt, ef þu vill lif þitt hafa, ok far þu a skip þitt ok aller menn þinir, ok farit fra lande sem skiotazst. Þa for innan eftir firdinum v tal hudkaipa ok lögðu at þeim Þorvalldr mælti þa: ver skulum færa vt abord vigfleka ok veriazst sem bezst, en uega lit j .....10  
mot. Suo gera þeir, en skrælingar skutu a þa om stund, en flyia sidan j burt, sem akafazst huer sem matti. Þa spurde Þorvalldr menn sina, ef þeir uere nokkut sarir. Þeir kuoduzst æigi sarir vera; ek he- fir fœingit sar under hendi, segir han, ok flo ôr mille skip bordsins ok skialldarins under hond mer, ok er her orin; enn mun mig þetta til b- .....15  
ana leida; nu ræd ek, at þer buit ferd ydra sem flioazst afr a læid, en en þer skulut færa mik a hofða þann, er mer þotti byggiligazst vera; ma þat vera, at mer hafui salt a munni komit, at ek muni þar hua a om stund. Þar skulu þeir mik grafa ok setia krossa at hofdum mer ok at fotum, ok kallit þat krossa nes iafnan sidan. Grenland var þa .....20  
kristnat, en þo andadiazst Æirekr raude firir kristni. Nu andadiazst Þor- ualldr. En þeir gerðu allt eftir þui sem han hafde mælt, ok foru sidan ok hittu þar forunauta sina, ok sogðu huorir ôdrum slik tidende sem vissu, ok biugg þar þann uetr ok fengu ser vinber ok vin vid til skip sins. Nu buazst þadan om uorit eftir til Grenlandz, ok kuomu skipe sinu j Æireks fjord .....25  
ok kunnu Leif at segia mikil tidende. Þorstein Eireks son andadiaz i vestri byggð  
**Þ**at hafde gerzt til tidenda medan a Grenlandi, at Þorsteinn j Æireks fird hafde kuongazst ok fengit Gudridar Þorbiarnar dottur, er att hafde Þorir aust madr, er fyrr uar fra sagt. Nu fystiazst Þorsteinn Æireks son at fara til Vinlandz eftir like Þorualldz broður sins, ok/ .....30



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

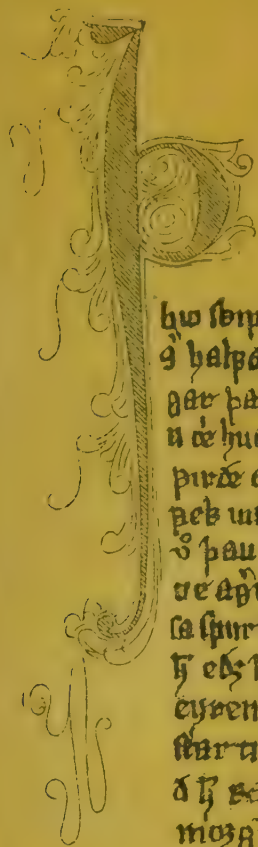
|   |    |
|---|----|
| te de deres Folk og lagde Haand paa dem alle undtagen en, som kom bort med sin Baad. De dræbe hine VIII og gaa siden efter paa Forbjergget og saa sig om dér, og saa inde i Fjorden nogle Høje, og antog de, det maatte være Boliger. Efter det slog sig saa stor Tyngde paa dem, at de formaaede ikke holde sig vaagne, og de sov alle ind. Da kom en Kalden over dem, saa at de alle vaagnede. Saaledes lyder Raabet: vaagn op, Du, Thorvald og hele Dit Følge, hvis Du vil bevare Dit Liv, og drag til Dit Skib og alle Dine Mænd, og rejs fra Land som snarest. Da kom inde fra Fjorden Utaal af Skindbaade og angreb dem. Thorvald sagde da: vi skulle anbringe udenbords Stormskjolde og værgе os som bedst, men angribe kun lidt.  | 5  |
| Saa gjorde de, men Skrælingerne skød en Stund paa dem, og flyede siden bort, saa hurtig som enhver kunde. Da spurgte Thorvald sine Mænd, om de vare noget saarede. De sagde ikke at være saarede, jeg har faaet Saar under Armen, siger han, og fløj Pil mellem Skibsbordet og Skjoldet ind under min Arm, og er her Pilen, og monne mig dette til Bane blive, nu raader jeg, at I berede Eders Færd som snarest paa Tilbagerejse, men I skulle føre mig til det Hoved, som tyktes mig bedst beboeligt, det kan være, at det var sandt, hvad min Mund sagde, at jeg monne dér bo en Stund. Der skulle I begrave mig og sætte Kors ved mit Hoved og ved Fodderne, og kalde det Korsnæs altid siden efter. Grönland var da kristnet, og dog døde Erik den Røde før Christendommen. Nu døde Thorvald, og de gjorde alt efter som han havde sagt, og drog siden at møde deres Fæller, og sagde hverandre slig Tidende som de vidste, og boede dér den Vinter og samlede sig Vindruer og Vinved til deres Skib. Nu beredte de sig paa at drage derfra Vaaren efter til Grönland, og kom deres Skib til Eriksfjord og kunde til Lejf siqe store Tidender. Thorstein Erikssön døde i Vesterbygden. | 10 |
| Det havde hændet inedens i Grönland, at Thorstein i Eriks Fjord havde giftet sig og faaet Gudrid Thorbjörnsdatter, som før havde Thorer Östmand, som forhen er sagt. Nu lystede Thorstein Eriks Sön at fare til Vinland efter Liget af sin Broder Thorvald, og  | 15 |
|   | 20 |
|   | 25 |
|   | 30 |

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- vided their party and laid hands on them all but one, who escaped  
with his boat. They kill those VIII and go afterwards on the headland  
and looked about, and saw up the firth some hills, and supposed  
they those to be settlements. After that they were stricken with weariness so great, that they  
5 could not keep awake, and fell they all asleep. Then came a call a-  
bove them, so that they all awoke. Thus says the call: Awake, thou Thor-  
vald and all thy company, if thou wilt keep thy life, and go thou to  
thy ship with all thy men, and sail from the land as quickly as possible. Then came  
from within the firth numberless leather boats and made at them. Quoth then Thorvald: we  
10 shall put outboards the shields and defend ourselves as best we may, but attack only  
little. So they did, but the Skralings shot at them for a while, and fled  
afterwards away, as hurriedly as each of them might. Then asked Thorvald his  
men, if they were anyhow wounded. They answered not to be wounded, I have  
got a wound under the arm, says he, and flew an arrow between the shipside and  
15 the shield under my arm, and here is the arrow, and may me this to d-  
eath lead, now I advise, that you prepare to go as soon as possible  
back, but you shall bring me to that headland, which I thought most habi-  
table to be, may be, that a true word came of my mouth, that I might  
dwell there for a while. There you shall bury me and set a cross at my head  
20 and at my feet, and call it Krossaness<sup>9</sup> for ever after. Greenland was at that time  
christianized, though Eric the Red died before the Christendom. Now died Thor-  
vald. And they did all according to what he had said, and went then to meet  
their comrades, and said to each other such tidings as they knew, and dwelt  
there that winter and gathered grapes and vine-wood for their ship. Now they prepared  
25 to go thence next spring to Greenland, and came their ship in Ericsfirth  
and had great tidings to tell to Leif. Thorstein Ericsson died in the Western settlement.
- I**t had happened meanwhile in Greenland, that Thorstein in Ericsfirth  
had married and got Gudrid Thorbiorns daughter, whom  
Thorer the Eastman had had, as before was mentioned. Now wished  
30 Thorstein Ericsson to go to Wineland for the body of his brother Thorvald, and







hvo sbrp hár same z ualde h lid at apl: z uersti z hapté mer  
 9 halpan þæa rög mæ z gudgide komi smá z sigla f hap þe  
 gar þau év binn z b; lnd lnn þau uelbri va allt sumit z vilt  
 u æ huar þau þ z er uka uar ap uet þa robu þv lnd f lysi  
 þvæ a gudeinde f hnie uetv hygd þit. lortate þ v vial ob  
 þeb wter oullú hætetú smú ev h v vilt laus z bona h; un  
 3 þau ept at bipe tuau nobburar ncew. þa u eu umg bā  
 ve agntide þ uar cem dag at m buo at nollæ þra smēma  
 la spur æ er þv þ v huar mæ v; f ualldmu. þa: sū. h m sed  
 h ebs hūv spyr at þit. harm eb z e eb kall. þit. sūv e þ er  
 eyrendi mla hringar at eb uil bnda ybbv bndū hnanū col  
 star til mī. þa qat uila hapa v ærte komu sñier e þ ba  
 d h æda z uu jatar h þu þa mū eb boma ept i bbr at  
 mōgī m; eybe þat lbor ebki t at vœsta ybbv vilt e þa  
 smie er mla m; m at vā þulat h ev v þat hū þat eb e  
 æm þybbv mrog ahan hō hep eb z e þ hapt z ærla eb þ  
 þa bera er þ hapt uu hō h ept þ um mōgām m; eybi  
 z þozu þau m; bā. sudra til watar z uam h þ ut gud  
 mōz uar llogulig bona at lūa z uir bona z bume til at v  
 a m; obimū mīn þ v smēma uetv lort hō f lid þit. ær. þ  
 z andadizt þar mōgā þnām þit. tæ gā bīdun at bbr þ  
 efrā er ondudizt z pœra til lēp z bua þar v þat eb vil  
 lart plytia til æir. þ at lunnā oll libm nu e þest ibar at bl  
 at at sou beme f hybile þit z rob bona h; lort þit e þer  
 grthv hon uar abapt mibā z ærb sem ballar e þo hō le  
 am h; und z hær ept þ rob lūama þit æir. þ z lagu þ  
 lortē sen z andadizt gmhv bona þit lūa en e h v dan  
 d þa geb þit. þra q; stopmie ept þiol at legia a liba. Gud  
 rōs mli þa vtu lula hrid f bōv þa. mū sed h. h q. suo vā  
 lēgilldu þa mli þit æir. þ. m; undarhgu hærā e nu v hpr



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

## *Icelandic Text.*

bio skip hit sama, ok ualde han lid at afli ok uesti, ok hafde met  
 ser halfan þrída tóg manna ok Gudride konu sína, ok sigla j haf, þe-  
 gar þau ero buin ok ór landsyn. Þau uelkti öti allt sumarit ok viss-  
 u æigi hvar þau foru. Ok er uika uar af uetri, þa toku þeir land j lysi.  
 firde a Grænlande j hinne uestri byggd. Þorsteinn leitade þeim öm vister, ok ..... 35  
 fek uister aillum hasetum sínum, en han var vist laus ok kona hans. Nu  
 voru þau eftir at skipe tuau nokkurar nætr. Þa uar enn ung krist-  
 ne a Grænlande. Þat uaræinn dag at menn komu at tiallde þeirra snemna!  
 Sa spurde er firir þeim var, hvar manna veri j tialldinu. Þorsteinn svarar: ij menn, segir  
 han, edr huerr spyr at. Þorsteinn hætti ek ok er ek kalladr Þorsteinn svartr, en þat er ..... 40  
 eyrendi mitt hingat, at ek vil biöda ykkir badum hionum til vi-  
 star til min. Þorsteinn querst uilia hafa ömræde konu sinnar, en hon ba-  
 d han rada; ok nu iatar han þessu. Þa mun ek koma eftir ykkir aa  
 morgin með eyke, þuiat skortir ekki til at væita ykkir vist; en fa-  
 sinne er mikit með mer at vera, þuiat ij ero vit þar hion, þuiat ek er ..... 45  
 einþykkir miog; anhan sid hefir ek ok, en þer hafit, ok ætla ek þann  
 þo betra er þer hafit. Nu kom han eftir þeim um morginun með eyki  
 ok foru þau með Þorsteini suarta til uistar, ok uæitti han þeim uel. Gud-  
 ridr uar skorulig kona at sia ok uitr kona ok kunne uel at ver-  
 a með okunnum monnum. Þat var snemna uetrar, sotti kom j lid Þorsteins Æireks sonar, ... 50  
 ok andadizst þar margir forunautar. Þorsteinn bat gera kistur at likum þ-  
 eirra er ondudizst ok færa til skips ok bua þar öm; þuiat ek vil  
 lata flytia til Æireks fjardar at sumri öll likin. Nu er þett skamt at bi-  
 da at sotti kemr j hybile Þorsteins, ok tok kona hans sotti fyst, er het  
 Grimhildr. Hon uar akafliga mikil ok sterk sem kallar, en þo kom so- ..... 55  
 ttin henni undir, ok bratt eftir þat tok sötina Þorsteinn Æireks son, ok lagu þau  
 bæde senn, ok andadizst Grimhildr kona Þorsteins suarta. En er hon var dau-  
 d þa, gek Þorsteinn fram ór stofunne eftir fiöl at leggja a likit. Gud-  
 ridr mælti þa: vertu litla hrid j brott, Þorsteinn min, segir hon; han quedr, suo vera/  
 skyldu. Þa mælti Þorsteinn Æireks son: með undarligum hætti er nu öm husfr- ..... 60

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

beredte det samme Skib, og valgte han til Følge stærke og velvoxne Folk og havde med sig halvtredsindsti <sup>1)</sup> Mand og Gudride sin Kone, og sejle ud paa Havet, saa snart de ere færdige, og ud af Landsigte. De flakkede om hele Sommeren og vidste ikke, hvor de vare. Og da en Uge af Vinteren var gaaet, saa gik de i Land i Lysefjord paa Grönland i den vestre Bygd. Thorstein ledte efter Bolig til dem og ..... 35 fik Bolig til hele sin Besætning, men han og hans Kone vare uden Bolig. Nu blev de tilbage paa Skibet i nogle Nætter. Da var endnu Kristen- dommen ny paa Grönland. Det var en Dag, at der kom Folk til deres Telt tidlig paa Dagen. Saa spurgte han, som var over dem, hvad Folk der var i Teltet. Thorstein svarer: II, siger han, men hvem spørger derom. Thorstein hedder jeg og kaldes Thorstein den Sorte, men det er ..... 40 mit Ærinde hid, at jeg vil byde begge eder Ægtefæller til Bolig hos mig. Thorstein sagde at ville holde Raad med sin Kone, men hun bad ham raade, og nu sagde han ja dertil. Da vil jeg komme efter Eder i Morgen med Heste, thi der skorter mig intet til at yde Eder Ophold, men faa- talligt meget er det hos mig at være, fordi vi 2 Ægtefæller ere ene, saasom jeg er ..... 45 meget egenraadig; en anden Tro har jeg ogsaa, end I have, og mener jeg den dog bedre, som I have. Nu kom han efter dem om Morgen med Heste, og førte de med Thorstein den Sorte til Bolig hos ham, og behandlede han dem vel. Gudrid var en mandig Kone at se, og en klog Kone og forstod godt at være blandt fremmede Mennesker. Det var tidlig paa Vinteren, at Sot kom blandt Thorstein Erikssöns Folk, ..... 50 og døde mange af hans Følgesvende. Thorstein böd gøre Kister til Ligene af dem, som døde, og at føre dem til Skibet og bevare dem der, thi jeg vil lade flytte til Eriksfjord til Sommer alle Ligene. Nu varede det kun kort, før Sot kom i Thorsteins Hus og angreb først hans Kone, som hed Grinhild. Hun var meget stor og stærk som en Karl, men dog var ..... 55 Soten hende for stærk, og kort efter det angreb Soten Thorstein Eriksön, og laa de begge samtidig, og døde Grinhild, Thorstein den Sortes Kone. Men da hun var død, saa gik Thorstein ud af Stuen efter en Fjæl at lægge Liget paa. Gudrid sagde da: bliv kun en liden Tid borte, Thorstein min, siger hun, han siger, saa skulde det være. Da sagde Thorstein Erikssön: paa underlig Maade viser sig nu Hus- ..... 60



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

prepared the same ship, and selected he a crew of strong and tall men, and had with  
him two tens and a half <sup>2)</sup>men, and Gudrid his wife, and sail out to sea, as  
soon as they are ready, and out of land-sight. They roved about all the summer and did  
not know where they went. And when a week of the winter was gone, they made land in Lyse-  
35 firth on Greenland, in the western settlement. Thorstein sought out homes for them, and .....  
got homes for all his crew, but was homeless, he and his wife. Now  
they were left in the ship for some two nights. Then was Christendom still young  
in Greenland. It was one day, that men came to their tent early .  
Then asked he, that was above them, what men were in the tent. Thorstein answers: I men, says  
40 he, but who asks. Thorstein is my name, and I am called Thorstein the Swarthy, but this is .....  
my errand here, that I will bid you both consorts to take a-  
bode with me. Thorstein replied, he would take counsel of his wife, but she b-  
ade him to decide, and now he said yes to it. Then will I come for you to-  
morrow with horses, as I am not short of means to get a home for you both, but few-  
45 peopled is it to dwell with me, because we are there only two consorts, as I am .....  
much self-willed, and another belief have I too, than you have, and think I yet that  
better, which you have. Now he came for them in the morning with horses,  
and went they with Thorstein the Swarthy to his home, and treated he them well. Gud-  
rid was a stout woman to see, and a wise woman, and knew well how to behav-  
50 e among unknown people. It was early in the winter, sickness came into the troop of Thorstein Ericsson, .....  
and died many of his fellows. Thorstein ordered to make coffins for the bodies of  
those who died, and to carry them to the ship and keep them there, for I will  
let remove to Eric's firth next summer all the corpses. Now it was not long be-  
fore sickness came to Thorstein's home, and was taken ill his wife first, whose name was  
55 Grimhild. She was most robust and strong as a man, and yet the sickness .....  
overpowered her, and soon after that the sickness took Thorstein Ericsson, and lay they  
both ill at a time, and died Grimhild, Thorstein the Swarthy's wife. But when she was dead,  
Thorstein went out of the room for a plank to lay the corpse on. Gud-  
rid then spoke: stay only a short time away, Thorstein mine, says she, he answers, so shall  
60 it be. Then said Thorstein Ericsson: in a strange way acts now our house- .....

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<sup>1)</sup> the ness of the cross.    <sup>2)</sup> 25.



velu uojar þar nu og glazt h' upp v' bloto ga z þok þorū si  
 uu pra stobbi z þreipar til sbuo smā z þ' þu þo þit fōt m  
 z lagðizt gmtō mdy þ' z þabazt þa þ' hūu tre f' stopnie  
 nu g'w þit þitū at libe gmtō. z þā f' þyot z blō v' h' uar þe  
 de mibill m' z stertō z þurpa h' þeit allz ddy h' þo h' burt ap  
 bœnū nu elnāde lōm þit cœt þ' z andadizt h'. Gudyd' ban  
 a h' bunt þu li þa v' þan eull f' stopnie - Gudyd' hādē lētē  
 atoli þrām' þ' bœnū ē h' haptē legat þit bōnde hūa þa to  
 b þit. tōndē gudyd' ap stollmū f' pang ser z settizt f' hœtti dū  
 an m' hā gegnt libe þit. z talde um þ' h' mōga uerā z hugazt  
 hā z hēt h' þu at h' mōde þa m' h' til cœt. p. m' libe þit. b. hā  
 z þuandā h' z lūo f' eb taba hūngat hūon plœnie seg' h' þerē  
 hugenat z stœttan h' þabbaðe hūm. þit. cœt. f' settizt þa m' u  
 z mlt. hū et. gudyd' m'. tūmā mlt hū þit ē h' þagde þa mlt h' v  
 þit. bōndā hugot f' eb lūoz uerā h' mālē edz dē h' tad hā ē  
 lūā. þa gœt þit. b. yþ gōlpt z settizt a stollm' ē gōt sat f' b  
 iam hūm z þa mlt þit. b. hūat ulltu napūl seg' h'. h' lū. ē hū  
 d lōz m' er ant til þeit at legia gudyd'. þozlaug hūm til þit ech  
 h' kunie þa bœt andlan mūm. þuāt eb ē kōmī t' gōdā hūa  
 lōa stāda. ē þer þ' at legia gōt. at þu m' g'pt vā illiz skūm  
 z mūm lāug vā sāmþāt ybbat z mē mā mū pra ybbē  
 bōmā þrolka sām bīar z agætt lētē z ihuāt m'. mūm þit  
 para ap gūdi t' nōz. z þad' til illiz z gā bu alliz þ' m' þale  
 inge bua z mūm hūm leingō hūa. þu nēt v' þa z gā lūz eb  
 bōmā v' aptū til illiz til hūf þmīl z þa mū þ' bēia vērā dā  
 z mūm þer vā z taba nūmā vīgūa z þat mūm andazt z þa  
 hūngat þit aptū z uar burt v' lib h' z þætt t' lēpt þit. b.  
 epndi at ut gōt. alle þ' er h' hāpde hœtt. h' sēlde v' nōz f' s  
 d lūā z bēpe z þoz t' lēpt m' gōt. m' alle lūa bīo lēpt z þeb  
 m' til z þoz lūan t' cœt. p. v' m' libi nōz at bēia gudyd' þoz





# THE FLATEY BOOK.

## *Icelandic Text.*

reiu uorror, þuiat nú orglazst hon upp við ölboga, ok þokar fotum sí-  
 num frá stökki, ok þreifar til skuo sinna. Ok j þui kom Þorsteinn bonde inn  
 ok lagðizst Grímhilldr nidr j þui, ok brakade þa j hueriu tre j stofunne.  
 Nu gerir Þorsteinn kistu at like Grímhildar, ok færde j brott, ok bio öm. Han uar þe-  
 de mikill madr ok sterkr, ok þurfi han þess allz, adr han kom henni burt af ..... 5  
 bænum. Nu elnade sottin Þorsteinni Æireks syni, ok andadizst han. Gudridr kon-  
 a hans kunne þui litt. Þa voru þau aull j stofunne. Gudridr hade setti  
 a stoli frammi fyrir beknum, er han hafde legið, Þorsteinn, bonde hennar. Þa ta-  
 k Þorsteinn bonde Gudride af stolinum j fang ser, ok settizst j bekkin ann-  
 an med hana, gegnt like Þorsteins, ok talde um fyrir henni marga uega, ok huggade ..... 10  
 hana, ok het henni þui, at han mundi fara med henni til Æireks fiardar med like Þorsteins, bonda hennar  
 ok forunauta hans. Ok suo skal ek taka hingat hion flæire, segir han, þer til  
 hugganar ok skemtanar. Hon þakkade honum. Þorsteinn Æireks son settizst þa upp  
 ok mælti: hvar er Gudridr, iii tima mælti han þetta, en hon þagde. Þa mælti hon við  
 Þorstein bonde: huort skal ek, suor uæita hans male edr æigi. Han bad hana æigi ..... 15  
 suara. Þa gek Þorsteinn bonde yfir golfit ok settizst a stolinu, en Gudridr sat j kn-  
 iam honum; ok þa mælti Þorsteinn bonde: huat uiltu nafni, segir han. Han suarar, er stunn-  
 di læid: mer er ant til þess, at segia Gudride forlaug sin, til þess ath  
 hon kunne þa betr andlati minu; þuiat ek er kominn til godra huil-  
 lida stada; en þat er þer at segia, Gudridr, at þu munt gift vera islenzskum manni, ..... 20  
 ok munu langar vera samfarar ykkrar, ok mart manna mun frá ykkr  
 koma, þroska samt, biart ok agætt, sætt ok ilmat uel. Munu þit  
 fara af Grenlandi til Noregs, ok þadan til Islandr ok gera bu a Islande, þar munu þit le-  
 inge bua, ok muntu honum leingr lifa. Þu munt ötan fara ok ganga sudr ok  
 koma öt afir til Islandr til bus þins, ok þa mun þar kirkia reist vera, ..... 25  
 ok muntu þar vera ok taka runnu vigslu, ok þar muntu andarst. Ok þa  
 hnigr Þorsteinn afir, ok uar buit öm like hans ok faert til skips. Þorsteinn bonde  
 efndi uel uit Gudride allt þat er han hafde hætit. Han sellde öm uorit jor-  
 d sina ok kuikfe, ok for til skips med Gudride med allt sitt; bio skipit ok fe-  
 menn til, ok fót sidan til Æireks fiardar. Vorunu likin iordut at kirkiu. Gudridr for til ..... 30

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| moderen vor, thi hun rejser sig op paa Albuerne og rækker sine Fødder<br>ud fra Sengestokken og griber efter sine Sko. Og i det samme kom Thorstein Bonde ind,<br>og lagde Grimhild sig da ned, og bragede det da i hvert Tønner i Stuen.<br>Nu gjør Thorstein Kiste til Grimhilds Lig og førte det bort og begravede det. Han var baa-<br>de stor og stærk, og dog behøvede han al sin Kraft, førend han fik hende bort fra ..... 5                          | 5  |
| Huset. Nu tiltog Thorstein Erikssøns Sygdom, og han udaandede. Gudrid, hans<br>Kone, var meget bedrøvet. Da vare de alle i Stuen. Gudrid havde siddet<br>paa en Stol fremme foran den Bænk, hvor han havde ligget, Thorstein, hendes Husbond. Da<br>tog Thorstein Bonde Gudrid fra Stolen i sin Faan og satte sig paa en anden<br>Bænk med hende lige overfor Thorsteins Lig og talte med hende paa mange Maader og opmuntrede ..... 10                       | 10 |
| hende og lovede, at han vilde fare med hende til Eriksfjord med Liget af hendes Husbond Thorstein<br>og hans Følgesvende. Og saa skal jeg skaffe flere Folk hertil, siger han, Dig til<br>Opmuntring og Morskab. Hun takkede ham. Thorstein Erikssøn satte sig da op<br>og sagde: Hvor er Gudrid. III. Gang sagde han dette, men hun tav. Da sagde hun til<br>Thorstein Bonde: Hvad skal jeg, svare paa hans Spørgsmaal eller ej. Han bad hende ikke ..... 15 | 15 |
| svare. Da gik Thorstein Bonde over Gulbet og satte sig paa Stolen, men Gudrid sad paa<br>hans Knæ; og da sagde Thorstein Bonde: hvad vil Du, Naame, siger han. Han svarer, da en Stund<br>var gaaet: Mig lyster nu at sige Gudrid sin Skæbne, paa det at<br>hun bedre skal finde sig i min Død; thi jeg er kommen til gode<br>Hvilesteder; men det er der at sige, Gudrid, at Du vil blive gift med en islandske Mand, ..... 20                               | 20 |
| og længe skal vare Eders Samliv, og I skal faa talrigt Af-<br>kom, kraftfuldt, berømt og herligt, sødt og veltagende. I skulle<br>drage fra Grønland til Norge, og derfra til Island og fæste Bo paa Island; der monne I<br>længe bo, og skal Du overleve ham. Du skal drage udenlands og rejse sydpaa og<br>komme ud igjen til Island til Din Ejendom, og da vil der være rejst en Kirke, ..... 25   | 25 |
| og der skal Du leve og modtage Nonnevielse, og der skal Du dø. Og saa<br>segnede Thorstein tilbage, og hans Lig blev klædt og ført til Skibet. Thorstein Bonde<br>opfyldte godt mod Gudrid, alt hvad han havde lovet. Han solgte om Vaaren sin<br>Jord og sit Kvæg og drog til Skibet med Gudrid og alt sit Gods, ordnede Skibet og fik<br>Mænd til det og drog saa til Eriksfjord. Blev nu Ligene jordede ved Kirken. Gudrid drog til ..... 30               | 30 |

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- wife, for now she raises herself up on her elbow, and stretches her feet  
out from the bedside, and grasps after her shoes. And at the same time Thorstein the housemaster came in,  
and Grimhild lay down, and creaked thereby every timber in the room.  
Now Thorstein makes a coffin for Grimhild's body, and brought it away, and buried it. He was  
5 both a very tall and strong man, but he had need of all that, before he got her away from.....  
the house. Now increased the sickness of Thorstein Ericsson, and he died. Gudrid, his  
wife, was much grieved. Then they were all in the room. Gudrid had been seated  
on a chair before the bench, where he had been lying, Thorstein, her husband. Then took  
Thorstein, the housemaster, Gudrid from the chair in his arms and seated himself on another bench  
10 with her, opposite to the body of Thorstein, and spoke to her in many ways, and encouraged.....  
her, and promised her, that he would go with her to Ericsfirth with the bodies of Thorstein, her husband,  
and of his followers. And so I shall take hither more persons of the household, says he, for your  
encouragement and pleasure. She thanked him. Thorstein Ericsson then sat up  
and spoke: where is Gudrid. III times said he this, but she remained silent. Then said she to  
15 Thorstein the housemaster: which shall I answer give to his speaking or not. He bade her not.....  
to answer. Then Thorstein the housemaster went over the floor and sat down on the chair, but Gudrid sat  
on his knee, and then Thorstein the housemaster spoke: what wilt thou, namesake, says he. He answers after  
a while: I wish now this, to tell Gudrid her fate, so that  
she may better bear my death, for I am come to good resting -  
20 places, but this there is to say, Gudrid, that you will be married to an icelandic man,.....  
and long shall be your life together, and much offspring will from you.  
come, good-looking, illustrious and excellent, sweet and fragrant. You shall  
go from Greenland to Norway and thence to Iceland and make your abode in Iceland; there you shall  
abide for a long time, and you shall outlive him. You shall go abroad and to the South, and  
25 come back to Iceland again to your home, and then a church shall be raised there, .....  
and you shall live there and take the veil as a nun, and there you shall die. And after  
this Thorstein sank back, and his corpse was laid out and brought to the ship. Thorstein the housemaster  
fulfilled well to Gudrid all that he had promised. He sold in the spring his lan-  
ds and his live-stock, and went to the ship with Gudrid and all his goods, put the ship in order and got  
30 men to it, and then sailed to Ericsfirth. Were now the bodies buried at the church. Gudrid went to .....





[illegible]



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

Læifs j Bratta hlid, en Þorsteinur suarti gerde bu j Æireks firde ok bio þar meðan han lifde, ok þotti vera hinn uaskesti madr. Fra Vinlandu ferðum Þorfinn ok þeirra felögum!

Þat sama sumar kom skip af Noregi til Grenlandu; samadr het Þorfinnr Kallr efni, er þui skipe styrde. Han var son Þordar hesthof.

— da Snorra sonar Þordar sonar fra. Þorfinnr kallr efni var stor .....35

audigr at fe, ok var um uetrin j Bratta hlid með Leifui Æireks syne.

Bratt fellde han hug til Gudridr ok bad hennar, en hon ueik til Læifs suðrum fyrir sig. Sidan var hon honum fostnut, ok gert brudhlaup þeirra a þeim

uetri. Hin sama var um næda a Vinlandu för sem fyrr. Ok fy—

stu menn Kallrefni miog þeirrar ferðar, bæde Gudridr ok adrir menn. Nu var .....40

radin ferð hans, ok red han ser skipveria, ix kalla ok konur v. Þann mal—

daga gerdu þeir Kallrefni ok hasetar hans, at iofnum hondum skylldi þeir

hafa allt þat, er þeir hófdu fengi til gæda. Þeir hófdu með ser al—

la skonar fenat, þuiat þeir ætloðu at byggja landit, ef þeir mætti

þat. Kallr efni bat Leif husa a Vinlande, en han kuetrst liamundu hu .....45

sin, en gefa æigi. Sidan heldu þeir j haf skipinu ok komu til Leifs bu—

da með heilu ok holdnu, ok baru þar upp huföt sin. Þeim bar brátt j

hendr mikil fong ok god, þuiat reydr uar þar upp rekin, bæde m—

ikil ok god; foru til sidan ok skaru hualinn. Skorti þa æigi mat. Fen—

adr gek þar a land upp; en þat uar bratt, at grad fe vard urigt, ok .....50

gerde mikit um sik. Þeir hófdu haft með ser gradung æinn. Kallrefni let

fella vidu, ok telgia til skip sins, ok lagde vidinn a biarg eitt til

þurkanar. Þeir hófdu oll gæde af landkostum þeim, er þar voru; bæde af vin—

berium ok allr skonar ueidum ok gedum. Eftir þann uetr hinn fysta kom su—

mar; þa urdu þeir uarir vit Skrælingia; ok for þar ór skögi fram .....55

mikil flokker manna. Þar uar nærr naut fe þeirra, en gradungr

tak at belia ok gialla akafliga hatt; en þat hgedduxt Skrælingar,

og lögdu undan með byrdar sínar, en þat uar grauara ok safua—

li, ok allr skonar skinna uara; ok snua til bæiar Kallr efnis, ok uilldu

þar inn i husin, en Kallrefni let ueria dýrnar. Huorigir skildu an .....60

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Lejf i Brattelid, men Thorstein Svarte fæstede Bo i Eriksfjord og boede der medens han levede, og mentes at være en højst hæderlig Mand. Om Thorfin's og hans Fællers Vinlandsfærd.   |    |
| <b>D</b> en samme Sommer kom et Skib fra Norge til Grönland. Den Mand hed Thorfin Karlsefne, som styrede Skibet. Han var Søn af Thord Hestehoved, Søn af Snorre, Søn af Thord fra (— — —). Thorfin Karlsefne var meget rig  | 35 |
| paa Gods, og boede om Vinteren i Brattelid hos Lejf Erikssøn. Snart følte han Kærlighed til Gudrid og bejlede til hende, men hun fik Lejf til at svare for hende. Siden blev hun trolovet til ham, og holdtes deres Bryllup den Vinter. Samtidig var der Tale om en Vinlandsrejse som før. Og tilskyndede man Karlsefne meget til denne Rejse, baade Gudrid og andre. Nu blev | 40 |
| bestemt hans Færd og hvervede han sig Skabsfolk, LX Mænd og VKvinder. Da gjorde Aftale Karlsefne og hans Besætning, at lige Del skulde de have i alt, hvad de fik af Udbytte. De havde med sig al-  |    |
| skens Kvæg, fordi de agtede at bosætte sig i Landet, hvis de formaaede det. Karlsefne bad Lejf om hans Huse i Vinland, men han svarede at ville laane ham   | 45 |
| Husene, men ikke give dem. Siden drog de ud paa Havet med Skibet og kom til Lejfs Bo-der hele og holdne, og bare der op deres Skindposer. Dem kom straks i Hænde en Fangst stor og god, thi en Storhval var dreven op, baade stor og god; de drog hen og skar Hvalen i Stykker. Skortede det da ikke paa Mad. Kvæg-   |    |
| et gik der oppe paa Land; men det skete snart, at Hankvæget blev uoornt, og   | 50 |
| gjorde megen Ufred. De havde haft med sig en Tyr. Karlsefne lod Træer fælde og tilhugge til sit Skib, og lagde Træet paa en Klippe til Tørring. De drog Fordel af alle de Landsherligheder, som der var, baade af Vin-  |    |
| druer og alskens Fangst og Goder. Efter denne første Vinter kom Sommeren; da blev de vaer Skrælinger, og kom der af Skoven frem   | 55 |
| en stor Flok Mennesker. Hornkvæget deres var nærvæd, og Tyren tog til at brumme og brøle umaadelig højt; men det forskrækkede Skrælingerne, og de løb derfra med deres Bylter, og deri var Graaværk og Zobel-   |    |
| skind og alskens Skindvarer; og de vendte sig mod Karlsefnes Bolig og vilde klatre ind i Husene, men Karlsefne lod værge Dørene. Den ene forstod ikke den an-   | 60 |



## THE FLATEY BOOK.

*English Translation.*

Leif at Brattalid, but Thorstein the Swarthy took his abode in Ericsfirth and dwelt there as long as he lived, and was thought to be a most honourable man. Of the Wineland voyages of Thorfinn and his fellows:

That same summer a ship came from Norway to Greenland. The man was called Thorfinn

Karlsefne, who steered the ship. He was a son of Thord the Horsesha-

d, son of Snorre, son of Thor from (---). Thorfinn Karlsefne was very rich.....

in goods, and stayed during the winter at Brattalid with Leif Ericsson.

Soon he fell in love with Gudrid and wooed her, but she made Leif answer

for her. Afterwards she was betrothed to him, and their bridal was made that

winter. At the same time mention was made of a Wineland voyage as before. And cal-

led people much upon Karlsefne to make this voyage, both Gudrid and others. Now was .....

settled his voyage and hired he ship-soldiers, LX men, and V women. Then the agree-

ment was made by Karlsefne and his crew, that even shares should they

have in all, that they got of good things. They had with them all

sorts of cattle, because they intended to settle in the country, if they were mighty to

do that. Karlsefne asked Leif for his houses in Wineland, but he replied, that he might lend him .....

the houses, but give them not. Afterwards they put to sea with the ship and came to Leif's booths

whole and sound, and bore there up their leather-bags. They got soon in

hand a large and good catch, for a whale was driven up there, both

large and good; they went thither and cut the whale. Were then not short of food. The cattle

went up on the land there; but it soon happened, that the males became unruly and .....

caused much trouble. They had had with them one bull. Karlsefne let

trees fell and hew for his ship, and laid the wood on a rock for

drying. They profited by all the products of the land, that there were, both of

grapes and deer and fish and all good things. After this first winter came

summer; they became aware of Skralings<sup>1)</sup> and came there out from the wood a .....

great troop of men. There was near cattle of theirs, and the bull

took to bellow and roar extremely, but this frightened the Skralings,

and they ran away with their burdens, but those were greyfur and sable

and all sorts of skin-wares; and they turned towards Karlsefne's abode and would

there enter the houses; but Karlsefne made defend the doors. Neither understood.....

---

<sup>1)</sup> the natives.



arf mal. þa tobu íbrennigjar of babba líma z leyntu z budu þ  
 z ulldu uopu helka þ e kalla of tættar þ at seha nepni z nri  
 arf h vads m; þ hœm at h bac boni þa ut bunnit at þ z þe  
 gar er þu sa bunnit þa villdu þu kaup þ e ekki aniat nu. ús  
 u kany þe; íbrennigja at þu tættu gni vnið þ biotg móg  
 u líma en kalla of z þnauter h. hopdu of tættar þu a zst  
 líma uðu þ þu v suobut þ burt. Nu er þu þ at se gta at  
 kallt lerr ga íbögara þamligan vni þ líma z vnið mæt þ v  
 þ þu líma þæddu guds. suet hærn kana bít z lert sa suetn s  
 noje a sundudun odu net þa buo íbér t mæt z v þe z v m  
 yllu þlætt e þyr. z hopdu líban vniat se þyr þa uti kallt v  
 bonur nu líma þer tætt ut líban mæt sem þyr nar tætt  
 at en ekki aniat z er þu ía þ þa kottudu þ. þogum líma m  
 up líma gni en guds. lert dycu mie m; ad gu líma líma líma  
 þa lert líma z dycu z gek þar m bona þ líma ná þyrth  
 hella; lag z hapt dycu um hoput z hol íbér d hær polen  
 z móg eíðad líma at e hapt íbér mibí augu lert f emu m  
 haufe han gek þar at er guds. lert z uti hær hær þu se  
 g h ek hærn guds. odu hær e þu hærn ek hærn guds lert ho  
 þa vni guds hupreija líma líma líma líma at líma líma líma  
 þ lert líma líma at þa hærde guds best mibí z nar þa b  
 onan hærþar z þu v z ueg m líma líma. of líma líma líma.  
 kallt þu at h hapt líma líma líma uopu þu z þ nu þ biot lí  
 tættar en líma líma líma þu er þ vnið cernge m hapt  
 bonu þa lert uen guds líma. nu mibí v þu þa t vadi at  
 aba lert kallt. þat ek hær at þu mibí vniat uo hær þu at  
 líma m; v þe z þu líma. nú líma v líma þu at x. m þu líma  
 a net þu z líma líma þ en aniat líma uo líma líma líma z ho  
 gua þan mibí þ nar þe v þa er hær þu at líma líma líma  
 m uo líma z líma guds líma z líma h þa þu e þ





# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

nars mal. Þa toku Skrælingar ofan bakka sína ok leystu, ok budu þeim  
ok uildu uopn hellst fyrir, en Kallr efni barnade þeim at selia uopnin, ok nu l-  
ceitar han rads med þeim hætti, at han bad konur bera ut bunyt at þeim; ok þe-  
gar er þeir sa bunyt, þa villdu þeir kaup þat en ekki annat. Nu uar s-  
u kaup för Skrælingia, at þeir baru sinn varning j brott j môg- ..... 5  
um sinum. En Kallr efni ok forunautar hans höfdu eftir bagga þeirra ok sk-  
inna uöru. Foru þeir vid suo buit j burt. Nu er fra þui at segia, at  
Kallr efni lét gera skidgard ramligann om þe sinn ok biugguðst þar om.  
J þann tíma fædde Gudridr suein barnn kona Kallrefnis, ok het sa sueinn S  
norre. A aunderdum odrum uetri þa komu Skrælingar til motr vid þa, ok voru m- 10  
yglu fleire en fyrr, ok höfdu slíkan varnat sem fyrr. Þa mælti Kallrefni vid  
konur: nu skulu þer bera ot slíkan mat, sem fyrr uar rífar-  
str, en ekki annat. Ok er þeir sa þat, þa kostuðu þeir baggunum sinum inn  
yfir skidgardinn. En Gudridr sat j dyrum inne med uöggum Snorra sonar síns.  
Þa bar skugga j dyrrin, ok gek þar inn kona j suortum nam kyrtli, ..... 15  
hellað lag, ok hafde dregil um hofut, ok líos iðrþ a har, foleit  
ok miog eygd, suo at æigi hafde iafn mikil augu set j einum mann-  
hause. Hon gek þar, at er Gudridr sat, ok mælti: huat hœtir þu, se-  
gir hon. Ek hœiti Gudridr, edr huert er þitt hœiti. Ek hœiti Gudridr, segir hon.  
Þa retti Gudridr husfreyia hond sína til hennar, at hon sæti hia henni, en ..... 20  
þat bar allt saman, at þa heyrde Gudridr brest mikinn, ok uar þa k-  
onan horfin, ok j þui var ok uegin æinn Skrælingr af æinum huskalle  
Kallrefnis, þuiat han hafde uiliat taka uopnn þeirra. Ok foru nu j brott seu  
tidarst, en klæde þeirra lagu þar eftir ok varning; æinge madr hafde  
konu þessa set, utan Gudridr æin. Nu munum ver þurfa til rada at t- ..... 25  
aka, segir Kallrefni, þuiat ek hygg, at þeir munu vitia uor hit þridea  
sunne med o fride ok siolmenn. Nu skulum ver taka þat rad, at x menn fari fram  
a nes þetta, ok syne sig þar, en annat lid uort skal fara j skog ok ho-  
ggua þar riðr fyrir naut fe voru, þa er lidit kemr fram ór skogi-  
num; uer skulum ok taka gridung uorru ok lata han fara fyrir os. En þar ..... 30

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|  |    |
|--|----|
| dens Sprog. Da tog Skrælingerne deres Pakker ned og løste dem, og tilbød dem, og vilde helst have Vaaben derfor, men Karlsefne forbød dem at sælge Vaaben, og nu finder han paa det Raad, at han bad Kvinderne bære Mælk ud til dem, og saa saare de saa Mælken, saa vilde de købe den og ikke andet. Nu blev da Skrælingernes Købfærd til, at de bar deres Varer bort i Møderne deres. Men Karlsefne og hans Folk beholdt Pakkerne deres og Skindvarerne. Drog de saaledes bort. Nu er der at fortælle, at Karlsefne lod gøre et stærkt Plankeværk om sin Bolig og gjorde alt i Stand. Paa den Tid fødte Gudrid, Karlsefnes Kone, et Drengsbarn, og Drengen kaldtes Snorre. I Begyndelsen af næste Vinter kom Skrælingerne til Møde med dem, og vare mange flere end før, og havde samme Varer som før. Da sagde Karlsefne til Kvinderne: nu skulle I bære ud slig Mad, som før var mest begært, og ikke andet. Og da de saa det, saa kastede de Pakkerne sine ind over Plankeværket. Men Gudrid sad indenfor Døren med sin Søn Snorres Vugge. Da kom en Skygge for Døren, og gik der ind en Kone i en sort snever Kjortel, temmelig lille, og som havde Baand om Hovedet, og lysebrunt Haar, var bleget og med saa store Øjne, at ingen havde saa store Øjne set i noget Menneskes Hoved. Hun gik hen, hvor Gudrid sad, og mælede: hvad hedder Du, siger hun. Jeg hedder Gudrid, men hvad er Dit Navn. Jeg hedder Gudrid, siger hun. | 5  |
| Da rakte Husmoderen Gudrid sin Haand til hende, at hun skulde sidde hos hende, men det skete da i det samme, at Gudrid hørte et stort Brag, og var da Konen borte, og i det samme blev dræbt en Skræling af en Huskarl af Karlsefne's, fordi han havde villet tage deres Vaaben. Og drog de nu bort som sædvanlig, men deres Klæder laa efter dem og Varerne, intet Menneske havde set denne Kone, uden ene Gudrid. Nu monne vi trænge til Raad at tage, siger Karlsefne, thi jeg mener, at de ville komme til vort den tredje Gang med Ufred og mandstærke. Nu skulle vi tage det Raad, at X Mænd skulle gaa frem paa dette Næs, og vise sig dér, men en anden Del af os skal gaa ind i Skoven og hugge dér Vej for vort Kvæg, naar Troppen kommer frem fra Skoven: vi skulle og tage vor Tyr og lade den gaa foran os. Men det   | 10 |
|  | 15 |
|  | 20 |
|  | 25 |
|  | 30 |

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- the other's language. Then the Skralings took down their packs and loosened them, and offered them  
and desired weapons especially for them, but Karlsefne forbade them to sell weapons, and now  
he takes the counsel, that he bade the women carry out milk to them, and  
as soon as they saw the milk, then would they buy that and nothing else. Now was this the  
5 purchasing of the Skralings, that they carried their bargain away in their sto- .....  
machs. But Karlsefne and his followers kept their packs and  
skinwares. Went they thus away. Now is this to be told, that  
Karlsefne let make a strong fence of pales round his abode and made all ready there.  
At this time Gudrid, Karlsefne's wife, brought forth a male child, and the boy was called  
10 Snorre. At the beginning of the next winter the Skralings came to meet with them, and were m- .....  
any more than before, and had the same wares as before. Then said Karlsefne to  
the women: now you shall carry out such meat, as was before most asked  
for, and nothing else. And when they saw it, they cast their packs in  
over the fence. But Gudrid sat within the door with the cradle of her son Snorre.  
15 Then fell a shadow through the door, and entered there a woman in a black narrow kirtle, .....  
rather low-built, and she had a ribbon round her head, and light brown hair, pale  
and large-eyed, so that nobody had seen so large eyes in any human  
skull. She went up there, where Gudrid sat, and asked: what is thy name, says  
she. My name is Gudrid, but what is thy name. My name is Gudrid, says she.  
20 Then Gudrid the housewife stretched out her hand to her, that she should sit by her, but .....  
it happened in the same moment, that Gudrid heard a great crack, and was then  
the woman lost to sight, and at the same time one Skraling was killed by a house-carle  
of Karlsefne's, because he would have taken their weapons. And went they now away as  
usual, and their clothes lay there behind, and their wares; no man had  
25 seen this woman, but Gudrid alone. Now we may be in need of counsel - ta- .....  
king, says Karlsefne, for I think, that they may call at ours' the third  
time with un-peace and with many men. Now we shall take that counsel, that X men go forth  
on this ness, and show themselves there, but an other part of ours' shall go into the wood and hew  
there a road for our cattle, when the troop comes out from the wo-  
30 od; we shall also take our bull and let him go ahead of us. But there .....





v̄ suo haddar ē p̄mids þra uar ærlaðs ær uatn uar ærdu  
 megi en skogr a anian uer nu ū þi vad hopy ē balt epl  
 æge til nu þomu skul. þ þn stad ē balt. hapy ærlat t̄ tes  
 taga nu nar þar haurage z pell piolla ap hie skul. en  
 m̄ nar mibill z uen i hie skul z þom bll. se h̄ m̄de v̄a hopy  
 mge. þra m̄ hapy ærū þra skul. tekt up̄ ær ena z let  
 a um stund z veidde ær p̄lega smi z hio al h̄i s̄a pell p̄eð  
 sauds þa tuf s̄a h̄m̄ myde mady ut dymie z let a v̄ stund  
 z narp h̄i s̄idan a sioni sem letngst mady h̄ ē s̄ida plua þa  
 a bogm̄ suo h̄m̄ se þara mady z lybr þar nu þra v̄llyp̄  
 v̄ þi bll. þar þn uen alla ē ær v̄ozi þa lyse bll. ær h̄ uill ē þ  
 v̄a letngst z vill þa t̄ gnlaz nu bna þa p̄d s̄ma z hopy þ  
 an mays gæte i v̄m̄m̄te z b̄u z s̄bma v̄ nu sigla þa s̄ha  
 p z buomu t̄ ær. p. skipe smi heilu z v̄ þ v̄m̄ uen p̄reid  
 v̄ tekt v̄m̄m̄te ær m̄m̄ v̄m̄ v̄m̄l̄az p̄d let opa. s̄a.  
 þar su p̄d þib̄ h̄eð god ul p̄dr z v̄ding. þ s̄ama smi  
 b̄o skp ap noy ul gnlaz ær bll. b̄o ap v̄l̄te þ skipe t̄  
 h̄rdu m̄m̄s i helgi z þm̄ hage z v̄ þn uen ærnl̄te þo s̄. v̄ ill  
 enezs̄ ær b̄yne z v̄ autp̄igou. þar ē m̄ t̄ ær t̄aba ær p̄re  
 yd̄ ær d̄ar ḡde p̄d s̄ma h̄em̄ v̄ ḡd̄ou z p̄o t̄ p̄m̄d v̄ þa  
 s̄a helga z p̄m̄boga z beidde þa ær þu þam̄ t̄ v̄l̄te m̄s þeo  
 t̄ s̄m̄ z hapa h̄elm̄s ḡd̄a allra v̄ h̄a þra ē þ p̄eḡra nu  
 am̄ þu þ þan p̄o s̄ ap̄m̄d. þ h̄adur s̄m̄ z ær h̄ ḡap̄ul h̄i.  
 h̄ þau ē h̄ hapy ḡa l̄at̄ ærnl̄te en h̄ l̄i. h̄m̄ s̄ama b̄ar  
 z t̄ h̄ m̄d̄u h̄ul en gepa æ. s̄a v̄ m̄al̄agi m̄s þ bll. ær þre  
 iðise ær h̄m̄s s̄eyllau hapa yyy uiḡ m̄a a skipe z bonur  
 ū p̄ra ē p̄reid̄ s̄a ap̄ þ p̄eḡ z hapy v̄. m̄ p̄l̄et̄a z leḡn  
 di þ z urdu þu s̄a ær p̄m̄ v̄ þa v̄ir ē þu bonur t̄ v̄l̄te. nu  
 letu þau s̄hap z hopy þ t̄ þest m̄t̄ ær ær þau m̄de s̄ap̄lo  
 ær hapa ær suo m̄l̄te v̄ra z þu v̄ l̄at̄ m̄u ē þo b̄m̄u þa s̄a



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

var svo hallat, er fundr þeirra var ætladr, at vatn var audru megin, en skogr á annan vegg. Nu voru þessi rad höfð, er Kallæfni lögð til. Nu komu Skrælingar í þann stad, er Kallæfni hafde ætlat til bardaga. Nu var þar bardage, ok fell fiollde af liðe Skrælinga. Einn maðr var mikill ok uærr í liðe Skrælinga, ok þótti Kallæfni sem hann mundi vera höfðlingur þeirra. Nu hafde einn þeirra Skrælinga tekit upp öxi eina, ok leit á um stund, ok reiddi at selaga sinum ok hio til hans. Sá fell þegar dauðr; þá tók sá hinn mykle maðr öt oxinne ok leit á um stund, ok varp henni sidan á stoinn sem leingst mætti hann. En sidan flyia þeir á skoginn, svo huerr sem fara mætti, ok lykr þar nu þeirra vidskiftum. . . . . 40

Voru þeir Kallæfni þar þann vetr allan; en at nori þá byser Kallæfni, at hann vill eigi þar vera længr, ok vill fara til Grenlandz. Nu bua þeir ferd sína, ok höfðu þaðan morg gæde í vinuðe ok berium ok skinnu voru. Nu sigla þeir í haf ok kuomu til Æireks fiardar, skipe sinu heilu, ok voru þar um vetrinn. Freydis

**N**u tekast omræða at nýju um Vinlandz ferd, let drepa brædr. 45

þvíat su ferd þikir bæde god til fiar ok virdingar. Þat sama sumar kom skip af Noregi til Grenlandz, er Kallæfni kom af Vinlande, þvi skipi stöndu brædr íj, Helgi ok Finnboge, ok voru þann vetr á Grenlande. Þeir brædr voru islenskir at kyni ok ór Austfiordum. Þar er nu til at taka, at Freydis Æireks dottir gerde ferd sína heiman ór Górdum, ok fór til fundar við þá brædr Helga ok Finnboga ok beiddi þá at þeir færi til Vinlandz með farko st sinn; ok hafa helming gæda allra við hana þeirra er þar feingist. Nu jötu þeir þvi. Þadan fór hon á fund Leifs broður síns ok, at hann gæfui henni hus þau er hann hafde gera latit á Vinlande, en hann suarar hinu sama kuzt li mundu hus en gefa æigi. Sá var maldagi með þeim Kallæfni<sup>1)</sup> ok Freydis, at huorr skylldu hafa xxx uigra manna á skipe ok konur um fram. En Freydis bra af þvi þegar ok hafde v monnum fleira ok leynði þeim, ok urðu þeir brædr æigi fyrri við þá varir en þeir komu til Vinlandz. Nu letu þau í haf, ok höfðu til þess mælt aðr, at þau mundu samföta hafa, ef svo villde verða, ok þess var lítill mun, en þó kuomu þeir brædr . . . . . 60

<sup>1)</sup> (bræðrum?)



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
Danish Translation.

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| var <sup>1</sup> saaledes beskaffent, hvor deres Möde var bestemt, at der var Vand paa den ene Side men Skov paa den anden Side. Nu blev det Raad fulgt, som Karlsefne foreslog. Nu kom Skrælingerne til det Sted, som Karlsefne havde bestemt til Kamp - en. Nu blev der Kamp, og faldt mange af Skrælingernes Skare. En Mand var kraftig og smuk i Skrælingernes Skare, og troede Karlsefne, han monne være Höv -  | 35      |
| ing deres. Nu havde en af den, Skrælingerne, taget en Öxe, og saa paa den en Stund, og löfede den mod en af sine Fæller og hug til ham. Han faldt strax död om; saa tog hin store Mand Öxen og saa paa den en Stund, og kastede den siden i Söen, det længste han formaaede. Men siden flyede de ind i Skoven, som hver kunde bedst, og ender dermed deres Sammenstöd.   | 40      |
| Var Karlsefne og hans Folk der hele Vinteren; men med Vaaren forkynder Karlsefne, at han vil ikke der være længer, og vil drage til Grönland. Nu lave de i Stand til Færden, og bragte derfra mange Herligheder, Vinöd og Bær og Skindoarer. Nu sejle de ud paa Havet og kom til Eriksfjord med helt Skib og var der om Vinteren.  | Freydis |
| Nu er der Omtale paa ny om Vinlands-Færd, lod dræbe Brödrene.  | 45      |
| fordi at saadan Færd tykkes god baade til Gods og Hæder. Den samme Sommer kom et Skib fra Norge til Grönland, da Karlsefne kom fra Vinland, det Skib styrede to Brödre, Helge og Finnboge, og blev den Vinter paa Grönland. Disse Brödre vare Islændere af Slægt og fra Östfjordene. Der ernu at fortælle, at Freydis Eriksdatter gjorde Rejse fra sit Hjem, Garde, og drog til Möde med   | 50      |
| Brödrene Helge og Finnboge og tilböd dem, at de skulde drage til Vinland med deres Fartøj, og have Halødelen med hende af alt, hvad de der monne faa. Nu bejadede de det. Dernæst drog hun paa Besög hos Lejf hendes Broder og [bad] ham give hende de Huse, som han havde ladet gøre paa Vinland, men han svarer det samme, sigende han vilde laane hende Husene, men ikke give. Saa blev Aftale mellem Karlsefne <sup>1)</sup> og Freydis, at hver skulde have XXX vaabenføre Mænd paa Skibet og Kvinder desuden. Men Freydis bröd strax dette og havde V Mænd flere og skjulte dem, og bleve Brödrene det ikke vaer, för end de kom til Vinland. Nu drog de ud paa Havet og havde aftalt forud, at de skulde sejle sammen, hvis saa blev muligt, og der var kun lille Forskel, men dog kom Brödrene | 60      |

<sup>1)</sup> Skrivfejl for: Brödrene?



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

were such conditions, where their meeting was planned, that water was on one side but a wood on the other side. Now was this counsel taken, which Karlsefne proposed. Now the Skralings came to the place, which Karlsefne had fixed for the battle. Now was there battle, and were slain many of the Skralings' host. One  
35 man was tall and fair in the Skralings' host, and Karlsefne thought, he might be head-  
man of them. Now one of them, the Skralings, had taken up an axe, and looked at for a while, and lifted it against his comrade and struck at him. He fell at once dead; then that tall man took the axe and looked at for a while,  
and hurled it after that into the sea as far as he could. But then they fled  
40 into the wood, every one as best he could, and ends now their encounter. ....  
Stayed Karlsefne and his men there all the winter, but in the spring Karlsefne announces, that he will there no longer remain, and will go to Greenland. Now they make ready for the voyage, and had with them many goods in wine-wood and berries and skin-wares. Now they sail out on the sea and came to Ericsfirth, the ship whole, and stayed there in the winter. Freydis  
45 **N**ow is made mention anew of Wineland-voyage, caused to be killed the brothers .....  
because such a voyage is thought good both for wealth and for honour. That same summer came a ship from Norway to Greenland, when Karlsefne came from Wineland; that ship was steered by two brothers, Helge and Finnboge, and stayed this winter in Greenland. These brothers were Icelanders of kin and from the Eastfirths. This is now to be told, that Freydis  
50 Eric's daughter made a voyage from her home at Garde, and went to meet with .....  
the brothers Helge and Finnboge and bade them go to Wineland with their ship, and to go halves with her of all the profit, that might be got there. Now said they yes to this. Thence she went to visit her brother Leif and [asked] him to give her the houses, which he had built on Wineland, but he answers her the same, say-  
55 ing, he will lend the houses, but not give. Such was agreement between Karlsefne<sup>1)</sup> and Freydis, that each should have XXX warriors on the ship and women besides. But Freydis immediately violated this and had V men more and concealed them, and were the brothers not aware of this, until they came to Wineland. Now they sailed out to sea, and had agreed before, that they should sail to-  
60 gether, if so might be, and there was little difference, but yet the brothers came .....

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<sup>1)</sup>erratum for: the brothers ?



nobbata þvír z hopu up boyr þaung sm t hula leys e e þr  
 esdú bom at hite þa dydia þu skp sit z þa up t hui þaung  
 sm þa nli þreidit hui barn þ m her þaung yd þmar y þug  
 dū segia þu at hakegzt munu oll abuedi oð m ost m lete  
 þ hufania seg þo ena gðr þa nli helgi þuota mū oltr þ. ul  
 z þu vto þis barnu nu vt þaung z gerdu sev skala z lestu  
 þn skala þu sionu augzstrondu z þuigu ut v e þu let  
 pella vidu til skp sm. nu rob at uenra z taluda þu þ.  
 at tabast mundu up leikar z vi hapa skenit suo var ge  
 um stund þar t e m tanast vta s mille z þa gðst sandr  
 þykke m þ z robust ut leikar z ong gðust þuom mille  
 skalana z þo suo þra leinge uenr þ var cem mossin sua  
 at þu. god upi s þumi smu z bleddast z þo e s skobled  
 en uedu uat suo þauit at dag uar palli mbd. þ rob þauit  
 bonat sm z þo s en sita þek þ t skala þek þ til skala þra  
 þ. z al dgra en mads en hapde vt gðt lada aas z lotr hrad  
 aptr a midæn blapa þ laub up hradme z stod s gattu stund  
 þa z þagde en þuilogi la nist s skalanu z uaba s msta  
 huat tultu hingar þu. þ lū. ek ul at þu stand up z gang  
 vt m m z ul ek tala vt þis suo giv þ þan gga at cro er  
 laund skala ueginu z leizet þar mds hui libat þ seg þ þ lū  
 god þu m þz þostur en illr þu m þuoto sit e ugg s mull e  
 þat ek halla ekki hapa t oðr þa seg þu se e seg þ z suo þ  
 ibi m en þ e omdre mta apm þind at ek vilde þaua þuþa  
 vit gðr þ. þuast þat hapa mta skp e ek z vilka ek s þ  
 hedru þ mū ek lora gengast seg þ ep þ hū þat nu skala þ  
 v þ gga þ he e þuilogi til hulu smar þ stigr up s þuim bollo  
 þou z nebuat þ þouast v z spgr þ at þ v suo bollo z vðe  
 þo lū m mblu þuota. ek uar gga m seg þ ut þra. þ. at þala þ  
 up at þ z vilde ek þaua meira skp e þu mta s þ suo illa





# THE FLATEY BOOK.

## *Icelandic Text.*

nokkuru fyrre ok hófðu upp borit faung sin til hús Leifs. En er Freydis kom at lande, þá rydiu þeir skip sitt ok bera upp til hús faung sin. Þá mælti Freydis: hui baru þer inn her faung ydr. Þuiat ver hugdum, segia þeir, at halldarst muni oll akuedin ord med oss. Mer lede Leifr husanna, segir hon, en æigi ydr. Þá mælti Helgi: þriota mun okkr brædr ill- ..... 5  
 zsku vit þig; baru nu vt faung ok gerðu ser skala ok settu þann skala firr sionum a uazstrondu ok biuggu uel om. En Freydis let fella vidu til skips sins. Nu tok at uetra, ok toluðu þeir brædr at takarst mundu upp læikarr ok væri hofð skemtun. Sue var gert om stund þar, til er menn bararst verra j mille, ok þa gerðist sundr ..... 10  
 þykke med þeim ok tokarst af læikar, ok onger gerðarst kuomur mille skalanna, ok for suo fram leinge uetran. Þat var æinn morgin snema, at Freydis stod upp ór rumi sinu ok klæddist ok for æigi j skokledin. En uedri uar suo farit, at dogg uar fallin mikil. Hon tok kapu bonda sins ok for j, en sidan gek hon til skala gek hon til skala þeirra ..... 15  
 brædra ok til dyra; en madr einn hafde vt geingit litlu adr ok lokit hurd afr a midian klofa. Hon lauk upp hurdinne ok stod j gattum stund þa ok þagde; en Finnbogeta innast j skalanum ok uakti; han mælti: huat villtu hingat, Freydis. Hon suarar: ek uil, at þu standir upp ok gangir vt med mer, ok uil ek tala vit þig. Suo gerir han; þau ganga at tre, er ..... 20  
 la undir skala uegginum, ok settist þar nidr. Huersu likar þer; segir hon; han suarar: godr þiki mer landr kostur, en illr þiki mer þustr sa, er uór j milli er, þuiat ek kalla ekki hafa til ordit. Þa segir þu sem er, segir hon, ok suo þ- iki mer; en þat er eyrende mitt a þinn fund, at ek villde kaup skipum vit ykkir brædr; þuiat þit hafit meira skip en ek, ok villda ek j brot ..... 25  
 hedan. Þat mun ek lata gangarst, segir han, ef þer likar þa vel. Nu skilia þau vit þat. Geinar hon heim, en Finnbogeta til huilu sinnar. Hon stigr upp j rumit koldum fotum, ok uaknar han þoruardr vid, ok spyr; hui at hon væri suo kold ok vóth. Hon suarar med myklum þiosti: ek uar geingin, segir hon, til þeirra brædra at fala skip at þeim, ok villda ek kaup meira skip, en þeir urdu vid þat suo illa, ..... 30

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| noget för og havde opbaaret deres Sager til Lejfs Huse. Men da Freydis kom til Land, da ryddede de deres Skib og bære op til Huset Sagerne deres. Da mølte Freydis: hot bar I her ind Eders Sager. Fordi at vi troede, sigede de, at holdes skulde hele Aftalen gjort med os. Mig laante Lejf Husene, siger hun, men ikke Jer. Da mølte Helge: Fattes mon os Brødre ond   | 5  |
| Villie mod Dig. Bare nu ud Sagerne og byggede sig et Hus og satte det Hus bort fra Stranden ved en Indsø og gjorde det godt i Stand. Men Freydis lod fælde Træer til sit Skib. Nu led det mod Vinteren, og foreslog Brødrene da, at begyndes skulde Lege og Morskab holdes. Saaledes blev gjort en Stund, indtil at man bar sig slet ad indbyrdes, da søndredes   | 10 |
| Enigheden mellem dem, og Legene holdt op, og ingen kom mellem Hallerne, og gik saaledes Vinteren længe. Det var en Morgen tidlig, at Freydis stod op af sin Seng og klædte sig paa og tog ikke Skötøj paa. Men Vejret var blevet saaledes, at der var falden stærk Dug. Hun tog sin Husbonds Kappe og trak den paa, og derefter gik hun til Brødrenes   | 15 |
| Hus og til Døren; men en Mand var udgaaet derfra lidt för og havde lukket Døren efter sig kun halvt i. Hun lukkede Døren op og stod i Aabningen en Stund og tøv; men Finnboge laa inderst i Stuen og var vaagen, han sagde: hvad vil Du her, Freydis. Hun svarer: jeg vil, at Du staar op og gaar ud med mig, og vil jeg tale med Dig. Saa gör han; de gaa til et Træ, som  | 20 |
| laa ind under Huseis Væg, og satte sig ned der. Hvorledes finder Du det her, siger hun, han svarer: gode tykkes mig Landets Frembringelser, men ilde synes mig om den Ufred, som os imellem er, fordi jeg paastaar, ikke at være Aarsag dertil. Det er som Du siger, siger hun, og saaledes tykkes og mig; men det er Ærindet med mit Besög hos Dig, at jeg vilde bytte Skib med Jer Brødre, fordi at I have större Skib end jeg, og vilde jeg gerne bort | 25 |
| herfra. Det kan jeg lade gaa, siger han, hvis det fornöjer Dig. Nu skilles de efter dette. Gik hun hjem, og Finnboge til Hvile. Hun stiger op i Sengen med kolde Födder, og vaagner han, Thorvard, derved, og spørger, hvi hun er saa kold og vaad. Hun svarer med stor Vrede: jeg var gaaet, siger hun, til dem Brødrene at köbslaa om Skibet med dem, og vilde jeg köbe större Skib, men de bleve derved saa vrede,                                     | 30 |

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- somewhat before and had carried their things up to Leif's houses. But when Freydis came to land, then empty they their ship and carry up to the house their luggage. Then quoth Freydis: why did you carry in here your luggage. Because we supposed, say they, that to be kept were all words given to us. To me lent
- 5 Leif the houses, says she, and not to you. Then quoth Helge: wanting is to us brothers ill- .....  
will against thee. Brought now out their luggage and made themselves a hall and set  
that hall away from the sea near a lake and put it well in order. But Freydis let  
fell wood for her ship. Now it drew towards winter, and proposed the brothers,  
that to be taken up were games and plays to be set a-going. So was done
- 10 for a while, until the men bare themselves worse to each other, and then was made asunder .....  
their union, and the games ceased, and nobody did come between  
the halls, and passed thus the winter a long time. It was a morning early,  
that Freydis stood up from her bed and dressed and put on no shoes.  
But the weather had become such, that a mighty dew had fallen. She took the cloak
- 15 of her husbond and put it on, and then went to the hall of the .....  
brothers and to the door, but a man had gone out a little before and had shut the door  
behind him only half-way. She opened the door and stood in the gate-way a while  
and was silent, but Finnboge lay inmost in the hall and was awake, he quoth:  
what wilt thou here, Freydis. She answers: I will, that thou standest up and goest
- 20 out with me, and will I speak with thee. So does he, they go to a tree, that .....  
lay under the wall of the hall, and sat there down. How likest thou all things here, says she, he answers:  
good think I the land's products, but ill think I of the discord, that is between us,  
for I pretend not to have caused it. There thou sayest as it is, says she, and so  
it seems to me, but this is my errand at my visit to thee, that I would exchange ship
- 25 with you brothers, because ye have larger ship than I, and I would go away .....  
hence. That I may let go, says he, if that pleases thee well. Now they parted  
therewith. She went home, but Finnboge went to rest. She gets up into the bed with cold  
feet, and awakes he, Thorvard, thereby and asks, why she be so cold and wet.  
She answers with great anger: I had gone, says she, to the brothers to buy the sh-
- 30 ip of them, and I would buy the larger ship, but this they took so ill, .....





at þá bœða mig z lobu þau. É þu uelast in mnt hube vilea veb  
 a mntar minna. Iðan ne þmar z mnt eb þ mnt pma at es er  
 þ bœttu ap gntæ z mnt eb gnt skilnat v þig vt þu hepn þe z  
 nu stoda þ de atdnt imar z bœd in up standa se skotæ z  
 raba uapn sm z suo gnt þu z þa þegar t skala þra þ. v.  
 gnt in at þ lopundū z tobu þa z þærdū þ bœd z leiddū  
 vt hūn sem bundi u en þr. let dæpa hūn se vt bœm nu  
 þar aller ballar dæpn. É bœm uoþu ep z vultæ cigi þærd  
 repa þa nlt þr. þar in dū þ hnd hū nar gnt lida negr þ  
 at bœnn þ. v. er þar v t geb ap þ dærdū. nu þ þau til þa  
 la lmt ep þ id illa vlt z þarast þ ælt a at þr. þotast dīl  
 uel hapa vmtædæ z mnt v þelaga lma ep ost vdy audm  
 at bœma til gntædæ seg þ þa se eb þn mnt vada ap hpe  
 seg þra þættu æthvætt. nu lba v þ segia at þau bnt h ep  
 t þa er v þæp þ vœt. nu blngu þr þ þr. lntma v vœt þ  
 er þr þ. hapdu at m þ ostū gædū z þau mættu t þa z þ  
 mnt þ sigla lnt þ hap z vrdū vt vœrd þa z bœm g ælt. y.  
 lntpe lntu lntma lntm. nu v þ lnt. þ z haptæ albuta  
 tþ lnt t hapt z bœrd bœttar z t þ mal in at æ mnt aud  
 aara lnt gnt hapa ap gntæ t þ t lntæ. þ þærdæ.  
 tærdæ þa nu t hnt lnt þar þ haptæ stædæ mnt vlt  
 at lnt þeb mntm þeig þlar ostū þættu lntu þar h  
 vltæ lntm lara vœdū lntu lnt h nu þ hnt lntu t  
 vrdū aller lntu hntm ost at þærdæ þ vœdū þra æd illa  
 lba at æ bœme up vnt lntu nu bœm þra up vnt lnt þ. v. b  
 dnt hnt z þant hnt þ. lnta all ill þa tok. lnt in ap lnt þra  
 þr. z þmæ þa lnta vnt þna at bnt allæ lntu lntm z v  
 mnt æmtu mote lntu þra æ nnt eb seg. lnt at gnt þ at v þr. lnt  
 lnt mnta sem hnt dnt vnt t lnt mnt eb þ lnt at þra ap bœttu  
 mnt lnt at þættu vnt nu lnt þ lnt þra at æmtu þant v þa



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

at þeir bórðu mig, ok léku sarliga. En þu, uestæll maðr, munt huerka vilea rek/-  
a rettar minnar skammar ne þinnar, ok mun ek þat nu finna, at ek er  
j brottu af Grenlande, ok mun ek gera skilnat við þig, utan þu hefnir þessa. Ok/  
nu stodst han æigi atolur hennar ok bað menn upp standa sem skiotazst ok/  
taka uopn sín. Ok suo gera þeir ok fara þegar til skala þeirra brædra ok ..... 35  
geingw inn at þeim sofundum ok toku þa ok færðu j bônd ok leiddu suo  
vt huernn, sem bundin uar, en Freydis let drepa huernn sem vt kom. Nu voru  
þar aller kallar drepnir. En konur voru eftir ok villde eingi þær d-  
repa. Þa mælti Freydis: fai mer ôxi j hond. Suo uar gert. Sidan uegr hon/  
at konum þeim v er þar voru ok gekk af þeim daudum. Nu foru þau til ska- 40  
la sins eftir þat id illa verk, ok fanxst þat æitt a, at Freydis þottixst all-  
uel hafa omradit, ok mælti við felaga sína: ef oss verdr audith/  
at koma til Grenlandz, segir hon, þa skal ek þann mann rada af life, er  
segir fra þessum atburdum. Nu skulu ver þat segia, at þau bui her ef-  
tir, þa er ver fôrum j brott. Nu biuggu þeir skipit snemma om vorit, þat ..... 45  
er þeir brædr hófðu at, með þeim ollum gædum, er þau mattu til fa ok sk-  
ipit bar. Sigla sidan j haf ok orðu vel ræid fara ok kuomu j Æireks fjord/  
skipe sinu snemma sumars. Nu var þar Kallæfni firir, ok hafde albuit sk-  
ip sitt til hafs, ok bæid byriar; ok er þat mal manna, at æigi munde aud-  
gara skip geingit hafa af Grenlande, en þat er han styrde. Fra Freydisi. .... 50

**F**reydis for nu til bus sins, þuiat þat hafde stadit meðan vsk/-  
att. Hon fek mikinn feing fiar ollu foruneyti sinu, þuiat hon/  
uillde leyna lata vðadum sinum. Sitr hon nu j bui sinu. Eigi/  
urðu aller suo halldin ordir, at þegde yfir vðadum þeirra edr illz/-  
sku, at æigi kæme upp om sider. Nu kom þetta upp om sider firir Leif bro- ... 55  
dur hennar, ok þotti honum þessi saga all ill. Þa tok Leif iij menn af lide þeirra/  
Freydisar, ok pinde þa sagnar a om þenna atburd allan iafnn saman, ok var  
með æinu mote sognn þeirra. Æigi nenni ek, segir Leif, at gera þat at við Freydisi, sy-  
stur mína, sem hon veri verd, en spa muir ek þeim þess, at þeirra afkueni  
mun litt at þrifum verða. Nu læid þat suo fram, at aungum þotti om þau .... 60



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Danish Translation.*

at de sloge mig og behandlede mig haardt. Men Du, usle Mand, mon hverken ville hæ-  
ne min Skam eller Din, og mon jeg det nu finde, at jeg er  
borte fra Grönland, og mon jeg ville skilles fra Dig, hvis ikke Du hævner dette. Og  
nu modstod han ikke hendes Haan, og böd Folkene staa op som snarest og  
tage deres Vaaben. Og saaledes göre de og droge strax til Brödrenes Hal og ..... 35  
gik ind til dem og toge dem sovende og förte dem i Baand og ledte saa  
enhver bunden ud, men Freydis lod dræbe enhver, som kom ud. Nu vare  
alle Mændene der dræbte. Men Kvinderne vare tilbage, og vilde ingen dem  
dræbe. Da sagde Freydis: giv mig en Öxe i Haanden. Saaledes blev gjort. Derpaa dræbte hun  
de V Kvinder, som vare der, og forlod dem som döde. Nu gik de til Huset ..... 40  
deres efter denne Id og onde Værk, og fandtes da det ene ud, at Freydis tykte sig helt  
godt at have handlet, og hun talte til sine Folk: Hvis os bliver forundt  
at komme til Grönland, siger hun, da skal jeg tage Livet af den Mand, som  
siger noget om denne Begivenhed; nu skulle vi sige, at de bleve her til -  
bage, da vi droge bort. Nu ladede de strax om Vaaren det Skib, som ..... 45  
Brödrene havde ejt, med alle de gode Sager, som de kunde faa, og  
Skibet bære. Sejlede siden ud paa Havet og fik en heldig Rejse og kom til Eriksfjord  
med deres Skib tidlig paa Sommeren. Nu var Karlsefne der og havde færdig  
Skibet sit til Afrejse, og biede paa Bör, og er det sagt af mange, at ikke monne rig-  
ere Skib være gaaet fra Grönland, end det, som han styrede. Om Freydis. .... 50

**F**reydis drog nu til sin Bolig, saasom den havde staaet imidlertid u-  
skadt. Hun gav meget store Gaver til sine Følgesvende, fordi hun  
vilde lade dölg sin Udaad. Sidder hun nu i sin Bo. Ikke  
være alle saa ordholdende, at tie om deres Udaad eller Ond-  
skab, at det ikke kom op omsider. Nu kom dette op omsider for Lejf, ..... 55  
hendes Broder, og tyktes han om dette Udsagn meget ilde. Da tog Lejf III Mænd af Freydis'  
Skare, og pinte dem da til at aabenbare denne Tildragelse helt og fuldt, og vare  
af ens Indhold deres Udsagn. Ikke nænner jeg, siger Lejf, at göre det ved Freydis,  
min Söster, som hun har fortjent, men spaa monne jeg dem dette, at deres Afkom  
vil lidet kunne trives. Nu förte det saaledes med sig, at ingen tænkte om dem ..... 60



THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- that they struck me and treated me roughly. But thou, weak man, wilt neither avenge  
my shame nor thine, and must I now find, that I am  
away from Greenland, and may I make separation from thee, unless thou avengest this. And  
now stood he not her scoffs, and bade his men get up forthwith, and  
35 take their weapons. And so they do and go at once to the hall of the brothers and .....  
walked in to them and took them sleeping and bound them in chains and led thus  
out each one, who was bound, and Freydis let kill every one that came out. Now were  
all the men killed. But the women were left, and would nobody kill  
them. Then quoth Freydis: get me an axe into my hand. So was done. Then she slew  
40 the V women that there were, and left them dead. Now they went to their hall .....  
after this deed and bad work, and was found out this one thing, that Freydis thought herself quite  
well to have acted, and she quoth to her companions: if us be allowed  
to come to Greenland, says she, then I shall bereave of life that man, who  
speaks of this event, now we shall say this, that they stayed here be-  
45 hind, when we went away. Now they loaded the ship early in the spring, that .....  
the brothers had owned, with all those goods, that they could get and the  
ship would hold. After that put out to sea and got a happy voyage and came into Ericsfirth  
with their ship early in the summer. Now Karlsefne was there and had prepared his sh-  
ip for departure, and waited for a fair wind, and is it said by many, never ri-  
50 cher ship to have gone from Greenland than that, which he steered. Of Freydis. ....  
Freydis now went to her abode, as it had stood in the meantime unsc-  
athed. She gave very great gifts to all her companions, because she  
would make be concealed her misdeed. Sits she now in her abode. Not  
were all so true to their word, as to be silent about their misdeed or wicked-  
55 ness, that it not came out at last. Now this at last came out before Leif, her .....  
brother, and thought he this saying to be wholly ill. Then took Leif III men of the party  
of Freydis, and tortured them to confess about this event the whole together, and were  
of one content their sayings. I cannot afford, says Leif, to do that to Freydis, my  
sister, which she deserves, but foretell may I to them this, that their offspring  
60 will only little thriving become. Now it passed so, that nobody thought of them .....



THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Manuscript.*

[illegible]





# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Icelandic Text.*

þau uert þaðan j fra nema illa. Nu at segia fra því, er  
 Kallrefni byr skip sitt ok siglde j haf; honum forst uel ok kom til Noregs  
 med heilu ok hollinu, ok sat þar om uetrinn ok selde uarning  
 sinn ok hafde þar gott yfirlæti ok þau bede hion af hinum  
 gofgaurstum monnum j Noregi. En om uorit eftir bio han skip sitt til ..... 5  
 Islandr, ok er han var albuinn, ok skip hans la til byriar fyrir brygg-  
 iinum, þa kom þarad honum sudr madr einn, celtadr af Brimum or  
 Særlande. Han falar at Kallrefni husa snotru hans; ek uil æigi selia, sa-  
 gde han. Ek mun gefa þer uit half mork gullr, segir sudr madr. Kallrefni þotti  
 uel vid bodit ok keyftu sidan. For sudr madr j burt med husa s- ..... 10  
 notruna, en Kallrefni visse æigi, huat tre var; en þat var mausur, koinu  
 af Vinlande. Nu sigler Kallrefni j haf, ok kom skipe sinu fyrir nordan land  
 j Skaga fiord, ok uar þar upp sett skip hans om uetrinn. En om uorit  
 keyfti han Glaumbeiar land ok gerde bu a, ok bio þar medan han lifde, ok  
 uar hit mesta gofugmenn. Ok er mart manna fra honum komit ok ..... 15  
 Gudride konu hans, ok godr ætibogi. Ok er Kallrefni uar andadr; tok Gudridr  
 uid bus uarduæitslu, ok Snorre son hennar, er fegdr var a Vinlande. Ok er  
 Snorre uar kuongadr, þa for Gudridr otan ok gek sudr, ok kom ot ap-  
 tr til bus Snorra sonar sins, ok hafde han þa latit gera kirkju j Gl-  
 aumbe. Sidan uard Gudridr nunna ok æinsetu kona ok uar þar, medan ..... 20  
 hon lifde. Snorre atti son þann, er Þorgeirr het. Han var fadir Inguelldar, mo-  
 dur Branz byskups. Dottir Snorra Kallrefnis sonar het Hallfridr; hon uar modir Runol-  
 fs, fôdur Þorlaks byskups. Biornu het son Kallrefnis ok Gudridar. Han var fadir Þorunnar, modur B-  
 iarnnar byskups. Fiolde manna er fra Kallrefni komit, ok er han kynsoll madr or-  
 dinn. Ok hefr Kallrefni gerst sagt allra manna atburde om farar þessar allar, ..... 25  
 er nu er nokkut orde a komit.

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*Danish Translation.*

fra den Tid andet end ondt. Nu er at fortælle om, at  
 Karlsefne bereder sit Skib og sejlede ud paa Havet. Ham gik det godt, og han kom til Norge  
 hel og holden og forblev der om Vinteren og solgte Varerne  
 sine og nød der god Modtagelse, baade han og hans Kone, af de  
 anseligste Mænd i Norge. Men Vaaren derefter beredte han Skibet sit til ..... 5  
 Island, og da han var færdig, og Skibet hans laa efter Bör ved Bryg-  
 gen, da kom der til ham en Sydlænder, stammende fra Bremen i  
 Sæxland. Han ønsker at købe af Karlsefne hans Gallionsfigur. Jeg vil ikke sælge, sa-  
 gde han. Jeg vil give Dig derfor en halv Mark Guld, siger Sydlænderen. Karlsefne tyktes  
 vel om Budet, og solgte derefter. Drog Sydlænderen bort med Gallions- ..... 10  
 figuren, men Karlsefne vidste ikke, hvad Træ det var, men det var Masur, kommet  
 fra Vinland. Nu sejler Karlsefne ud paa Havet, og kom med sit Skib nordpaa Landet  
 i Skagefjord, og blev der sat op hans Skib om Vinteren. Men om Vaaren  
 købte han Glömbö-Land og byggede Hjem der, og boede der, medens han levede, og  
 var den mest fremragende Mand. Og er meget Afkom kommet fra ham og ..... 15  
 Gudrid, hans Kone, og en udmærket Slægt. Og da Karlsefne var død, tog Gudrid  
 Gaardens Varetagelse med Snorre sin Søn, som fød var paa Vinland. Og da  
 Snorre var bleven gift, saa drog Gudrid udenlands og rejste mod Syd, og kom siden  
 tilbage til sin Søn Snorres Gaard, og havde han da ladet bygge Kirke i Gl-  
 ömbö. Siden blev Gudrid Nonne og Eneboerske og blev der, imedens ..... 20  
 hun levede. Snorre havde en Søn, som hed Thorgejr. Han var Fader til Ingvald, Mo-  
 der til Biskop Brand. Snorre Karlsefnesøns Datter hed Halfrid, hun var Moder til Run-  
 olf, Fader til Thorlak Biskop. Björn hed Karlsefnes og Gudrids Søn. Han var Fader til Thorun, Moder  
 til Björn Biskop. Talrig Slægt er kommen fra Karlsefne, og er det en ædel-  
 Slægt blevet. Og har Karlsefne nøjagtigst af alle fortalt Begivenherne paa alle disse Rejser, ..... 25  
 som her noget er kommet til Orde om

THE FLATEY BOOK.  
*English Translation.*

- from that time but ill. Now to mention, that  
Karlsefne prepared his ship and sailed out to sea, it went well with him, and he came to Norway  
whole and sound, and stayed there during the winter and sold his wares,  
and enjoyed there good friendship, both he and his wife, from the  
5 most distinguished men in Norway. But the next spring he prepared his ship for .....  
Iceland, and when he was quite ready, and his ship lay waiting for a fine wind at the  
quay, there came to him a Southerner, a native of Bremen in  
Saxonland. He wishes to buy of Karlsefne the beak-head of his ship, I will not sell, sa-  
id he. I will give thee for it half a Mark of Gold, says the Southerner. Karlsefne thought  
10 this to be a good bidding and then sold. Went the Southerner away with his ship's .....  
beak-head, but Karlsefne knew not, what wood it was, but it was mazar, come  
from Wineland. Now Karlsefne sails out to sea, and came with his ship to the north part of the land  
in Skagefirth; and was there his ship laid up for the winter. But in the spring  
he bought Glumbö-Land and built his home there, and dwelt there during his life, and  
15 was a most distinguished man. And is much offspring from him come, and from .....  
Gudrid his wife, and a good family-line. And when Karlsefne was dead, Gudrid  
took the warding of the property, and Snorre, her son, who was born in Wineland. And when  
Snorre was married Gudrid went abroad, and to the South, and came after  
this again to the abode of Snorre, her son, and had he then made make a church in Gl-  
20 umbö. Afterwards Gudrid became a nun and an anchorite, and lived there during .....  
her lifetime. Snorre had a son, called Thorgeir. He was the father of Ingveld, mother  
of Bishop Brand. Snorre Karlsefne's son's daughter was Hallfrid, she was the mother of Run-  
olf, the father of Bishop Thorlak. Biörn was Karlsefne's and Gudrid's son. He was the father of Thorun,  
of Bishop Biörn. Many men are descended from Karlsefne, and he has got a great the mother  
25 progeny. And Karlsefne has most exactly of all related the events of all these voyages, .....  
as it now has been put into words.





THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Fragments of Original Manuscripts Referring to the New  
World Discoveries.*

**Þ**orvalldz het maðr þann ein rauda. cap  
son osualldz ulf son ðyna þi son þi. 201

Þorvalldr het maðr þaattr Eireks rauda. Capitulum.  
son Osualldz, Ulf sonar ðæna þoris sonar. Þorvalldr ok Æi

Thorvald hed en Mand, Fortælling om Erik den røde.  
Søn af Osvald, Søn af Ulf, Öxne-Thorers Søn. Thorvald og E-

Thorvald was called a man, A little story of Eric the Red.  
son of Osvald, son of Ulf, son of Öxna-Thorer. Thorvald and E-



# THE FLATEY BOOK.

*Fragments Referring to American Discoveries.*

e h.  
b r a

6. a

Anno

en þu ap grafa þu at leita vintu.

1221 Eiríkr biskup af Grænlandi fór at leita Vinlands ..... 31

31 1221 Eric, bishop of Greenland, went to seek Wineland ..... 1221

Erik Biskop af Grönland fór ud at oplede Vinland ..... 31

b a v.

g e.

þann þu vintu vintu

1285 Fann land vestr undan islandi ..... 53

53 1285 Was found land west of Iceland . ..... 1285

Fandtes et Land vest for Island. .... 53





*Fragments Referring to American Discoveries.*

þær er þetta : þær er örygla þar þær.

896Da



# THE HAWK BOOK

*Manuscript.*

[illegible]



# SAGA OF ERIK THE RED.

## *Icelandic Type Text.*

English translation in "Norse Discovery of America," see page 192.

[AM. 557, 4to, p. 27.]

EIRÍKS SAGA RAUDA<sup>1</sup>—1.

13. [Ó]láfr<sup>2</sup> hét konungr, er kallaðr var Óláfr hvíti. Hann var son Ingjalds konungs  
14. Helgasonar, Ólafssonar, Guðrøðarsonar<sup>3</sup>, Hálfðanarsonar hvítbeins Upple-  
15. ndinga konungs. Óláfr herjaði í vestrsvíking, ok vann Dyflinni<sup>4</sup> á Ír-  
16. landi ok Dyflinnarskíri, ok gørdisk konungr yfir. Hann fekk<sup>5</sup> Auðar d-  
17. júpauðgu, dóttur Ketils flatnefs, Bjarnarsonar bunu, ágæts manns ór N-  
18. oregi; Þorsteinn rauðr hét son þeira. Óláfr fell á Írlandi í orrostu, en Au-  
19. ðr ok Þorsteinn fóru þá í Suðreyjar; þar fekk Þorsteinn Þuríðar, dóttur Eyvindar  
20. austmanns<sup>6</sup>, systur Helga hins magra; þau áttu mǫrg börn. Þorstei-  
21. nn gørdisk herkonungr. Hann rézk til lags með Sigurði enum ríka, syni Eyste-  
22. ins glumru. Þeir unnu Katanes ok Suðrland, Ros ok Mœri, ok meirr en  
23. hálf Skotland. Gørdisk Þorsteinn þar konungr yfir, áðr Skotar sviku hann, ok  
24. fell hann þar í orrostu. Auðr var þá á Katanesi, er hon spurði fall Þorsteins.  
25. Hon lætr þá gøra knǫrr í skógi á laun, en er hon var búin, helt hon út  
26. í Orkneyjar. Þar gipti hon Gró, dóttur Þorsteins, ok hon var móðir Gunnlaðar, er Þorfinnr  
27. jarl hausakljúfr átti. Eptir þat fór Auðr at leita Íslands; hon hafði á  
28. skipi tuttugu karla frjálsa. Auðr kom til Íslands, ok var hinn fyrsta vetr  
29. í Bjarnarhǫfn með Birni bróður sínum. Síðan nam Auðr ǫll Dalalǫn-  
30. d, milli Dögurðarár ok Skrámuhlaupsár, ok bjó í Hvammi. Hon hafði b-  
31. ænahald í Krosshólum. Þar lét hon reisa krossa, því at hon var skírd ok vel

<sup>1</sup> MS. saga eireks rauda.

<sup>2</sup> MS. [O]leifr.

<sup>3</sup> MS. gudridar sonar.

<sup>4</sup> MS. diflina.

<sup>5</sup> hann feck repeated in MS.

<sup>6</sup> MS. austz mannz.

7 þá á min 7 bændi þing af at hafa þátt e 7 vottu eome þa þá  
 7 taltu em vā godan farsen 7 aðinu man mikinn en ei þá  
 heitov a varningu getk kona þiri viðburt dýrm en s oem  
 hver vísu þin 7 agra kona er þar getk þiri dýrm. ek hefi á  
 hana h þyrir set. o. s. þ er gudeide þótt min d. þótt at leyg þóttu  
 e in mti þun mun uera koftr godz. eða hafa nokkur v m til  
 hve at bnda hōnar. o. s. þótt hefi hefi vst vā 7 hve. þ ei laust  
 þvri. þing þ a at þun mun vā man vone 7 sva f. hefi. sva  
 mō þvri sagdi em at þer er fva kona er ek etla in bndia 7 vill  
 þa ek at þessa malla leitadir þu við þótt þótt hefiar 7 leydin  
 allan hug a at þra metti fram genst vda st ek þ þullkōna  
 vmdau þri. gutta. ef ok get radur. ma þótt bōndi þ þra.  
 at okkri vi vel hēndar tengdur þri at þ er soma made mikall  
 7 a stōð þessu. goda en lausa fe þ er mer sagt heitov a þvri  
 en mik skœtur hvarða tō ne lausa fe 7 okkri þessu 7 m d. þótt  
 vda at þessu þin mesti styrkar. ef þra tekur. o. s. vst þiklar  
 vnt þin vera en þo em ek ei v d mtt rad þvst at vid þvri  
 þra vpp þri at þótt er þvst 7 þo metnadat madz mikall  
 en þvst ekka vnda anar en vpp in boant bonædre. o. kvad þ m  
 da skiltov. þvri em fude apter vnt þ hefi hefi. nokkur v fida þa  
 þri þótt havg þvst. sem þ at vanda þri at þ var fœm. mik  
 at þo þar omm 7 anastapa 7 marg dny vnt þvst. o. þo at m  
 h v d þvst 7 sagdi at emar var þar skōv fra þvst þelli 7 g d  
 þri epningsti made hefi. o. nu vpp bonædre þri hōnd emar  
 7. s. þ v d þvst. þvri foma klaka saki ma þvst bōndi vda at þvst  
 styrkar mikall. þri þar koftr saki. þvst. þvst ei vndi mik skura  
 vda at þvst at ek mundi gipra þvst. s. d. mma 7 þvst þvst þvst  
 þvst þvst þvst e 7 þvst rad gept in 7 eigi tū þun m d þvst vā lengr  
 þvst þvst þvst fva þvst. g d. v d. fida þvst omm hefi. 7 þvst  
 dnta bōnd mæta til þvst þvst. v d. v d. var eptar m d. 7 þvst  
 7 var hefi þvst vnt en at vnt hafi þvst vmd bōnd 7 þvst þvst  
 mart mma 7 v þvst besta vnt 7 at vnt þvst þvst þvst  
 hōnd. 7 m. þvst hefi ek vnt langa epti. 7 þvst ek reyn godvna  
 mma v d mik. 7 a stōð kalla ek v d þvst hafa var fva. en nu

# THE HAUK BOOK.

## *Icelandic Type Text.*

English translation in "Norse Discovery of America," see page 216.

[HAUKSBÓK, p. 94 b.] ÞORFINNS SAGA KARLSEFNIS—4.

1. ok heimamönnum, ok bauð honum af at hafa slíkt er hann vildi. Ormr þá þetta,
2. ok talði Einarr vera góðan fardreng ok auðnumann mikinn. En er þeir
3. heldu á varninginum gekk kona fyrri útibúrs dyrrin. Einarr spyrr Orm:
4. 'Hver væri sú hin fagra kona, er þar gekk fyrri dyrrin. Ek hefi eigi
5. hana hér fyrri sét.' Ormr svarar: 'Þat er Guðríðr, fóstira mín, dóttir Þorbjarnar at Lau-  
garbrekku.'
6. Einarr mælti: 'Hon mun vera kostur góður, eða hafa nokkurir menn til
7. komit at biðja hennar?' Ormr segir: 'Beðit hefir hennar víst verit, ok liggir þat eigi laust
8. fyrri; finnsk þat á, at hon mun vera mannvænd, ok svá faðir hennar.' 'Svá
9. með því,' sagði Einarr, 'at hér er sú kona, er ek ætla mér [at] biðja, ok vil-
10. da ek at þessa mála leitaðir þú við Þorbjörn, fóstur hennar, ok legðir
11. allan hug á, at þetta mætti framgengt verða. Skal ek þér fullkomna
12. vináttu fyrri gjalda, ef ek get ráðit. Má Þorbjörn bóndi þat sjá,
13. at okkr væri vel hendar tengðir, því at hann er sómamaður mikill
14. ok á staðfestu góða, en lausafé hans er mér sagt heldr á fœrum;
15. en mik skortir hvárki land né lausafé, ok okkr feðga, ok mundi Þorbirni
16. verða at þessu hinn mesti styrkr, ef þetta tókisk.' Ormr segir: 'Víst þykkjumk [ek]
17. vinr þinn vera, en þó em ek eigi við mitt ráð fúss, at vit berim
18. þetta upp, því at Þorbjörn er skapstórr, ok þó metnaðarmaður mikill.
19. Einarr kvezk ekki vilja annat en [at] upp væri borit bónorðit. Ormr kvað hann rá-
20. ða skyldu. Ferr Einarr suður aptr unz hann kemr heim. Nokkuru síðar ha-
21. fði Þorbjörn haustboð, sem hann átti vanda til, því at hann var stórmenni mik-
22. it. Kom þar Ormr frá Arnastapa, ok margir aðrir vinir Þorbjarnar. Ormr kom at má-
23. li við Þorbjörn, ok sagði, at Einarr var þar skömmu frá Þorgeirsfelli, ok gerðisk
24. hinn efnilgsti maður. Hefr Ormr nú upp bónorðit fyrri hönd Einars,
25. ok segir þat vel hent fyrri sumra hluta sakir, 'má þér, bóndi, verða at því
26. styrkr mikill fyrri fjárkosta sakir.' Þorbjörn svarar: 'Eigi varði mik slíkra
27. orða af þér, at ek munda<sup>1</sup> gipta þræls syni dóttur mína; ok þat finni þér nú, at
28. fé mitt þverr, er slíkt ráð gefið mér; ok eigi skal hon með þér vera lengr, er
29. þér þótti hon svá lítills gjaforðs verð.' Síðan fór Ormr heim, ok hverr
30. annarr bóndmannanna<sup>2</sup> til síns heimilis. Guðríðr var eptir með fóstur sínum,
31. ok var heima þann vetr. En at vári hafði Þorbjörn vinaboð, ok kom þar
32. mart manna, ok var hin bezta veizla. Ok at veizlunni krafði Þorbjörn sér
33. hljóðs, ok mælti: 'Hér hefi ek búit langa æfi, ok hefi ek reynt<sup>3</sup> góðvilja
34. manna við mik ok ástúð; kalla ek vel farit hafa vár skipti; en nú

<sup>1</sup> MS. mundi.

<sup>2</sup> *sic.*

<sup>3</sup> MS. reyn.



hon hafði á hafi sér glættolinu glættolinu kopta suortan  
 áhöfði 7 við mæn kappstam hvar 7 hon hafði staf lyndi  
 7 var á knappa hvar bóm mð mfinngu 7 sette fleinu opna  
 vinn knappinn hon hafði vinn sik hynostu lunda 7 var þar  
 á skodu þunga mikill. 7 varð vortu hon þar i tættu fín  
 þau er hon þurfti til þroðloks at hafa hon hafði afotun  
 kappstam skvaldona. 7 þvengilanga 7 at knappar mikill  
 áendur hon hafði áhöndum sér kappstam glöfa 7 var þar  
 tætt mæn glöfu en e hynkam m þotti dolum mæn, þylytt at vella  
 hi seming kvedur hon tok þu sem hi voru m gedradur til tok þott  
 þottu hönð hi 7 leiddi hana til þess setis sem hi var þott þott  
 ha þa retha þar augu rir hvar 7 hroed 7 fva hbyli. hon var þa  
 mællug vinn allu hord y upp tekinn vinn kvettur 7 er þa þar  
 at segja hvað spakinn vinn var mættur heiti var geru geru  
 te á hönð ra mællu 7 mætt bunn hroed or dulla kyttondu þ  
 er þar vinn hon hafði mfinng hon 7 þann tætt þepan tinnholk  
 dætt af euri. 7 var beottin af oddinn. En er beed vinn upp tekinn þa  
 gengur þottu b. þar þottu. 7 fva hönð hi þitt þar vinn at lara  
 eða hönðu þappettu hi eru þar hbyli eða heiti. g. e. hoersu  
 þhothga hon mun vinn vinn. þess er hæn heiti þvottu ha. 7 mæn  
 mætt þottu at vinn hon kallaz ekki munu segja þess  
 en vinn mættinn ept. er hyn hafði dætt soptu vinninn.  
 En vinn mættinn at alidinn. d. var hi vinn þa vinn þar  
 gr sem hon þurfti at hafa til at þenna. seiddin hon hönð 7  
 þa ser konur þer er hönð þess þ sem til seiddinn þar 7 var  
 dlokkur heiti. en þer konur þunduz eigi þa var leitat at  
 vinn þess ef hönð hyn. þa. f. vinn þess hönð en e fyllu  
 vinn ne vinn þess hönð. en þo hönð halton þess mæn mæn  
 þ hönð er hon kallad vinn dlokkur. þott. f. þa eru hönð þess  
 hönð. þott er þar euri at fli e ek eða iangru at bema at  
 vera þar at ek en eristinn hönð. þott. f. fva mæn þess at þu  
 vinn vinn at lön her vinn en þu vinn þa hönð ekki vinn en  
 dætt. en við þott mun ek mæn at þa þa hönð til e hönð



# THE HAUK BOOK.

## *Icelandic Type Text.*

English translation in "Norse Discovery of America," see page 216.

[HAUKSBÓK, p. 95 b.] ÞORFINNS SAGA KARLSEFNIS—6.

1. hon hafði á hálsi sér glertölur, ok lambskinns kofra svartan
2. á hofði, ok við innan kattsinn hvít, ok hon hafði staf í hendi,
3. ok var á knappr; hann var búinn með mersingu, ok settr steinum ofan
4. um knappinn; hon hafði um sik hnjóskulinda, ok var þar
5. á skjóðupungur mikill, ok varðveitti hon þar í taufr sín,
6. þau er hon þurfti til fróðleiks at hafa. Hon hafði á fótum
7. kálfskinns-skúa loðna, ok í þvengi langa ok á tinknappar miklir
8. á endunum; hon hafði á höndum sér kattsinn-glófa, ok váru hv-
9. stír innan ok loðnir. En er hon kom inn, þótti öllum mönnum skylt at velja
10. henni sömiligar kveðjur. Hon tók því sem henni váru menn geðjaðir til. Tók Þorkell
11. bóndi [f] hönd henni, ok leiddi hana til þess sætis, sem henni var búit. Þorkell bað
12. hana þá renna þar augum yfir hjú ok hjörð<sup>1</sup> ok svá hsbýli. Hon var fá-
13. málug um allt. Borð váru upp tekin um kveldit, ok er frá því
14. at segja, hvat spákonunni var matbúit. Henni var gerr grau-
15. tr á kiðjamjólk, ok matbúin hjörtu ór öllum kykvendum þeim,
16. er þar váru til. Hon hafði mersingarspón ok kníf tannskeptan<sup>2</sup>, tvsholk-
17. aðan af eiri, ok var brotinn af oddrinn<sup>3</sup>. En er borð váru upp tekin, þá
18. gengr Þorkell bóndi fyrri Þorbjörgu, ok spyr hversu henni þikki þar um at lítask,
19. eða hversu skapfeld henni eru þar hsbýli eða hættir manna, eða hversu
20. fljótliga hon mun vís verða þess, er hann hefir spurt hana ok mönnum er
21. mest forvitni at vita. Hon kallask ekki munu segja fyrr
22. en um morgininn eptir, er hon hafði áðr sofit um nóttina.
23. En um morgininn at áliðnum degi, var henni veittr sá umbúnin-
24. gr, sem hon þurfti at hafa til at fremja seiðinn. Hon bað ok
25. fá sér konur þær, er kunnu fræði þat, sem til seiðsins þarf, ok var-
26. ðlokkur hétu; en þær konur fundusk eigi. Þá var leit at
27. um boeinn, ef nokkur kynni. Þá segir Guðríðr: 'Hvarki em ek fjölkunn-
28. ig né vísinda kona, en þó kendi Halldís, fóstura mín, mér á Íslandi
29. þat kvæði, er hon kallaði varðlokkur.' Þorkell segir: 'Þá ertu happfróð.'
30. Hon segir: 'Þetta er þat eitt atferli, er ek ætla í öngum atbeina at
31. vera, því at ek em kristin kona.' Þorbjörg segir: 'Svá mætti verða, at þú
32. yrðir mönnum at liði hér um, en þú værir þá kona ekki verri en
33. áðr; en við Þorkel mun ek meta, at fá þá hluti, er hafa

<sup>1</sup> MS. evidently by a slip, hrord.

<sup>2</sup> MS. tann skepan.

<sup>3</sup> MS. oddinn.



# THE HAUK BOOK.

## *Icelandic Type Text.*

English translation in "Norse Discovery of America," see page 216.

[HAUKSBOK, p. 98.] ÞORFINNS SAGA KARLSEFNIS—11.

1. nær dagsetri<sup>1</sup>. Þorsteinn bóndi bað Guðríði leggjask niðr ok sofa; en hann kv.
2. ezk vaka mundu um nóttina yfir líkinu. Hon górir svá, ok er skamt leið á
3. nóttina, settisk Þorsteinn Eiríksson upp, ok mælti; kvezk vilja at Guðríðr væri
4. þangat kǫlluð, ok kvezk vilja tala við hana: 'Guð vill at þessi stund sé
5. mér gefin til leyfis ok umbótar míns ráðs.' Þorsteinn bóndi gengr á fu-
6. nd Guðríðar, ok vakði hana, biðr hana signa sik ok biðja sér guð hjálpar,
7. ok segir hvat Þorsteinn Eiríksson hafði talat við hann; 'ok hann vill finna þik.
8. Verðr þú ráð fyri at sjá hvat þú vill upp taka, því at ek kann hér
9. um hvárskis at fýsa.' Hon svarar: 'Vera kann, at þetta sé ætlat til nok-
10. kurra þeira hluta, er síðan sé í minni hafðir, þessi hinn undarligi hlu-
11. tr, en ek vænti at guðs gæzla<sup>2</sup> mun yfir mér standa; mun ek
12. ok á hætta með guðs miskunn, at fara til móts við hann, ok vita hvat
13. hann vill tala, því at ek mun eigi forðask mega, ef mér skal mein
14. at verða. Vil ek síðr at hann gangi víðara; en mik grunar, at þat
15. man á liggja.' Nú fór Guðríðr, ok hitti Þorstein; sýndisk henni sem
16. hann feldi tár. Hann mælti í eyra henni nokkur orð hljótt, svá at hon
17. ein vissi. En þat mælti hann svá at allir heyrðu, at þeir menn væri
18. sælir, er trúna heldu, ok henni fylgði ǫll hjálp ok miskunn, ok sagði
19. þó, at margir heldi hana illa; 'er þat engi háttr, sem hér hefir
20. verit á Grœnlandi, síðan kristni kom hér, at setja menn niðr í úví-
21. gða mold við líta yfirsöngva. Vil ek mik láta flytja
22. til kirkju ok aðra þá menn, sem hér hafa andazk, en Garðar
23. vil ek brenna láta á báli sem skjótast, því at hann veldr
24. ǫllum aptergöngum þeim, sem hér hafa verit í vetr.' Hann sagði
25. henni ok um sína hagi, ok kvað hennar forlög mikil mundu ver-
26. ða, en bað hana varask at giptask grœnlenzkum mönnum;
27. bað at hon legði fé þeira til kirkju, ok sumt fátœ-
28. kum mönnum, ok þá hné hann aptr ǫðru sinni. Sá hafði
29. háttr verit á Grœnlandi, síðan kristni kom
30. þangat, at menn váru grafnir á bæjum,
31. þar sem ǫnduðusk, í úvígðri moldu;
32. skyldi setja staur upp af
33. brjósti hinum dauða. En

<sup>1</sup> MS. dag satri.

<sup>2</sup> MS. gætla.





# VATICAN MANUSCRIPTS

Concerning the Church in America  
Before the Time of Columbus.

COPYRIGHT BY  
T. H. SMART,  
1906.

Almo Signore

18610

Dopo avere esaminato la sua domanda contenuta nella lettera del 14 Maggio e ripetuta nella seconda lettera del 27 Giugno pppt. Le partecipo oggi che il Santo Padre si è degnato di permettere che S. S. possa eseguire una riproduzione fotografica di alcuni manoscritti relativi alla Costituzione della Chiesa in Greenland, già esposti alla grande mostra Louisiana ed ora custoditi nell'Università di S. Luigi.

Nel comunicarle questa benigna autorizzazione, Le aggiungo che si usa generalmente offrire alla Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana una copia del lavoro, che contiene le riproduzioni. Consensi di ben distinta stima passo a ripetervi

Di S. S. Almo

Roma 14 Luglio 1906

Sig. J. W. Buel

St. Louis.

Affmo per servizio

R. Cardinal Merry del Val

TRANSLATION.

Distinguished Sir:

Replying to request contained in your letters of May 2d and June 27, the Holy Father instructs me to grant you permission to reproduce by photography any of the manuscripts referring to the Constitution of the Church in Greenland, that were made a part of the Vatican exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

In communicating to you this benign authorization, I beg to ask that a copy of your very valuable work, in which the reproductions appear, be presented to the Vatican Library.

Assuring you of my very distinguished consideration.

Rome, July 14, 1906.

Sig. J. W. BUEL, St. Louis.

Devoted to your service,

R. CARDINAL MERRY DEL VAL.





## THE VATICAN MANUSCRIPTS.



IT WAS a most important, and equally valuable, discovery, that was made in 1902, by searchers among the ancient manuscripts in the Vatican repositories, when the letters of several popes were revealed in which references are made to Greenland centuries before the time of Columbus. It has for a long while been a question, forming the subject of a vigorous dispute, whether the claims of Norsemen to having visited the New World, as early as the year 1000, were founded upon any trustworthy evidences. Not a few of the most distinguished historians rejected the statements, set forth in the Sagas, as romances characteristic of the heroic aspirations of the people during what may be called the "Viking Age." There were others, however, who stoutly and with fair reasoning supported the authenticity of the discovery, basing their conclusions largely upon the simplicity of the narrative, the incidents recorded, the accuracy of the descriptions of coasts and places, and the sea-roving propensities of the Norse Navigators. To the question, which was very apropos, "If the discovery were made, as declared, why were not permanent settlements established, and why have proofs of occupancy not been found?" This answer was returned: while the Northmen were essentially a sea-faring people, and extended their voyages to all parts of the North Atlantic coasts, they never had the colonizing spirit, being actuated chiefly by expectation of immediate gain; their visits to all lands were therefore made principally with a purpose to forage, and it was this ambition that gave them a reputation as freebooters rather than as explorers.

Readers of the preceding volume in the *Norrœna* series, "The Norse Discovery of America," will recall that when Erik the Red discovered Greenland he gave an attractive name to the country with the hope that thereby many Icelanders might be persuaded to settle there. It should be borne in mind that the people of Iceland were not agriculturists, that their subsistence was most largely obtained from the sea, and being unused to cultivating the soil the fertility of a new country did not greatly appeal to their instincts. These facts

furnish a sufficient answer to the enquiry quoted, and their setting forth long ago demonstrates the logical position taken by those who supported the claims of the Norse discoveries.

Reproduction and translation of those parts of the sagas that describe the finding of Greenland, and the exploration of the Atlantic Coast of North America, in connection with the historical presentation of the subject in "The Norse Discovery of America," lays before American readers, for the first time, the documents that have been so fruitful a subject of dispute. This will be highly gratifying to every student of history, who is thereby enabled, through this accessibility to the manuscripts, to form conclusions as to their credibility as records.

But if republication of ancient Icelandic manuscripts, that describe the American discovery nine hundred years ago, be so highly gratifying to the student, the masses, I apprehend, will be interested in having placed before them documentary proofs confirmatory of the Saga records. These it is our pride, pleasure and honor to present, the honor being the greater because this is the first time they have ever appeared in print.

It fortunately happened that discovery of Greenland was made only fifteen years (985) before the introduction of Christianity into Norway, Sweden, and Iceland. Supplanting the old mythology, Catholicism became almost at one bound not only a prevalent religion among the Norse, but such earnestness was manifested that intense zeal to extend the faith became the animating ambition of the people. This being known, historians who regarded the Sagas purely as romances combatted the claim of credibility with the enquiry: "If Greenland and America were discovered at the early date fixed by certain Sagas, why are no records to be found showing that the Holy Church took cognizance of that very important event?"

For more than a century it was suspected that manuscripts did exist among the great mass of records and correspondence preserved in the Vatican library, that contained references, at least, to the American discovery by the Norse. The writer was so deeply interested in the subject that during a visit to Rome, in the year 1900, he suggested that a search be made through the Vatican manuscripts for such documents. The suggestion was so well received that an investigation followed which resulted in the finding of the several Papal letters which are reproduced, with translations, in this volume.

The importance of this literary discovery cannot be overestimated, to the church, to America, and to the world. These letters, from the several Popes, prove not only the discovery but that the Church, which ever follows fast upon the heels of the pioneer, was established in Greenland coincident with the sending of Leif Erikson to that country by King Olaf Trygvason, to introduce Christianity, who, the Saga recites, took a priest with him.

A bishop's seat was established at Gardar, Greenland, and it is certain that the Greenland (Nidros) See had jurisdiction over all the extent of country embraced in the discovery. This conclusion is confirmed by the statement that Bishop Erik Upsi visited the Vinland colonists, presumably not so much to carry to them spiritual consolation, as to locate and order the building of a church, in which the settlers might worship.

The earliest of the several letters herein reproduced is that of Pope Innocent III, February 13, 1206, but it will be noticed that the reference therein made to Greenland is of such a character as to indicate that the Church had been flourishing there for a long while. The Archbishops to whom these letters were addressed had control over the bishops of Greenland, who in turn maintained ecclesiastical jurisdiction over that part of America known as Vinland, and therefore it was unnecessary for the Pope to make specific reference to Vinland, or any part of the American continent, since the whole was comprehended in the See of Greenland.

And it must be told that the search which was so generously rewarded by the finding of the reproduced letters, has not been concluded, for so vast is the accumulation of manuscripts that several years will be required to complete the examination. It is perfectly fair to believe that prosecution of the search will bring to light other documents of a much earlier date, in which we can hardly doubt that some reference is made to the discovery, by Leif Erikson, of Vinland and the church that was founded there.

But meantime we may content ourselves with the actual ascertainment, the positive confirmation, that Greenland was a Christianized country, as the Sagas describe, several centuries before the time of Columbus, and even in the absence of specific reference to Vinland, or the American continent, the conclusion is no less irresistible that North America, at least, was known to the Norsemen. We have seen that the Icelanders were essentially a sea-faring people; that they crossed the North Atlantic in their small, open ships from Norway



to Iceland, 600 miles, that they made the passage from Iceland to Greenland, which is more than 250 miles in a direct line, and so well established themselves there that the settlement continues to this day. Is it conceivable that a people who lived so much upon the sea,—who had crossed its most dangerous reaches, who made frequent passages between Greenland, Iceland, Norway,—would never, by design or accident, cross the 200 miles of water that separates Greenland from the continent! And once gaining the shore of North America, would it not follow that they would explore the coast, as the Sagas declare? That they made no permanent settlement does not throw discredit upon the authenticity of the discovery, for, as explained, the Icelanders were not a colonizing people. They established themselves in Greenland because that country so much resembled their own. Moreover, they met no hostile aborigines in Greenland, to dispute their occupancy of the land, as they did in Vinland. Conditions while probably more favorable climatically were distinctly less encouraging in other particulars, and as to climate the Icelanders so greatly prefer the arctic that they rarely emigrate from their island, for which reason though they number more than 80,000 souls it is an extremely rare thing to meet with an Icelander further from home than the Danish possessions, or Norway.

For the Papal letters which are reproduced in this supplement to the *Norœna* series, I beg to acknowledge my gratitude to His Eminence Cardinal Merry del Val, Papal Secretary of State, whose authorization was given in a personal letter which appears on a preceding page. These recently discovered communications, to the Archbishops of Norway, constituted a part of the Vatican exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904, copies of which were later presented to the St. Louis University and are now to be seen in the museum of that institution.



Manuscript Letter of Pope Innocent III to the Archbishop of Nidros, Norway, 1206. Greenland-America was included in the See of Nidros.

Nidros

singulare

14

**I**tem oibz ligandi - solvendi sit con. sicut Archiepō eiꝝ succ. canonice substituendis in pꝛm.  
 ecclia potestas. licet unū pꝛceptū ad oꝝ oꝛdeꝝ pꝛuēit pꝛdicandi euāgeliū & creature  
 uolūt qdā tñ int eas hūa. ē distictō dignitatis. & dñicaz ouū quā que oibz iminebat  
 unius singlaritē suscepit hūda. dicente ad eū dñō. paxte. Amas me. pascite oues. m. que  
 etiam int oꝝ aplōz pꝛicipat' nomō obtinuit. & de sūm cōfirmatōe a dñō pꝛceptū accepit. ut  
 in hoc secutūre posteritati daretur intelligi. qm̄ qm̄uis multos ad regnū ecclē cōtinget  
 ordinari. unus tñ solimodū sūpme dignitatis locū fastigiūq; tenet. & unū oibz. & potesta  
 te gubnandi. & iudicandi oꝝo pꝛideet. Unde & scd hanc formā in ecclā distictō seruata est  
 dignitatis. & sic in hūmāo cōpore p uarietat' offīz diuersa ordinata sūt membra. ita  
 in structura ecclē ad diūsa mīsteria exhibēda diuerse plone in diūsis sūt ordinibz cō  
 stituti. Alijs enī ad singlarē ecclāz. alijs aut ad singlarē urbū dispositōm ordinans  
 ac rerū cōstituti sūt. in singlis pūcijs alij quoz prima uiter sūa sūa hātut. & ad quoz  
 examē sūl. actaz pꝛuiaz qōnes & negōcia referantur. Sūp oibz aut Roman' pontifex  
 cō. nā nec in archa pꝛuū locū nolat obtinē. qui ex collato sibi desup in aplāz pꝛici  
 pō rēuigēdo de unū loꝝ cāis iudicat & disponit. & p unū orbē ecclē filios in xpīa  
 ne fide. firmare nō d'sinit cōfirmare. talē se curās iugit exhibe. qui uocē dñicam  
 uidetur. quidē q̄ dicit. tu es. qm̄ cōuersus cō. f. c. hoc nūmū pꝛm pꝛet illi apl  
 o. dñi. qui & s. cō. lōnes tꝛm ad gerendā curā se. aplice surrexerūt. indefinē cu



[Innocentius III.]

[13 Febr. 1206.]

1. .. Nidrosiensi archiepiscopo eiusque successoribus canonice substituendis, in perpetuum. Licet omnibus ligandi et solvendi sit concessa potestas, licet unum preceptum ad omnes idemque pervenerit predicandi evangelium omni creature, velut quedam tamen inter eas habita est discretio dignitatis et dominicarum ovium curam, que omnibus iminebat, unus singulariter suscepit habendam, dicente ad eum Domino: Petre amas me? Pasce oves meas. Qui etiam inter omnes apostolos principatus nomen obtinuit, et de fratrum confirmatione singulare a Domino preceptum accepit, ut in hoc seculare posteritati daretur intelligi, quoniam, quamvis multos ad regimen ecclesie contingeret ordinari, unus tamen solummodo supreme dignitatis locum fastigiumque teneret, et unus omnibus et potestate gubernandi et iudicandi omnes presideret. Unde et secundum hanc formam in ecclesia distinctio servata est dignitatum, et sicut in humano corpore pro varietate officiorum diversa ordinata sunt membra, ita in structura ecclesie ad diversa ministeria exhibenda diverse persone in diversis sunt ordinibus constitute. Aliis enim ad singularum ecclesiarum, aliis autem ad singularum urbium dispositionem ordinatis ac rerum, constituti sunt in singulis provinciis alii, quorum prima inter fratres sententia habeatur, et ad quorum examen subiectarum personarum questiones et negocia referantur. Super omnes autem Romanus pontifex tamquam Noe in archa primum locum noscitur obtinere, qui ex collato sibi desuper in apostolorum principe privilegio de universorum causis iudicat et disponit et per universum orbem ecclesie filios in christiane fidei firmitate non desinit confirmare, talem se curans iugiter exhibere, qui vocem dominicam videatur audisse, qua dicitur: Et tu aliquando conversus confirma fratres tuos. Hoc nimirum post beatum Petrum illi apostoli et viri, qui per successiones temporum ad gerendam curam sedis apostolice surrexerunt indesinenti cu-





tuum studio adimplere p[er] uniuersum orbe n[ost]r[u]m p[er] se n[ost]r[u]m p[re]latos suos corrigenda corrige  
 7 statuenda statuere sumope studuerunt. Quoru[m] q[ui] ueligia subleuat se. me. Eugeniu[m] pp. ante  
 cessoru[m]. de corrigendis h[uius] que in Regno Norwiche correctione uidebantur exposce. ubi  
 ibi fidei firmamando iuxta sui officij debitu[m] sollicit[us] exatit. 7 q[uo]d per se ip[su]m uniuersalis  
 eccle[si]e cura obstitente no[n] potuit. p[re]latu[m] suu[m] nich. tunc. f. Albanen[sem] Ep[iscopu]m qui postea in  
 Romani pontifice est assumpt[us] executio[n]i mandauit. Ut ad pres[ent]e[m] illas accedes sic a suo pa  
 trisfamilias acceptat in mandatis. talentu[m] sibi creditu[m] laugit[ur] est ad usutu[m]. 7 ta[m]q[uam] fidei ter  
 tius 7 prudens malaplicatu[m] inde fructu[m] sibi dunt[axat] reportare. Int[er] o[mn]ia uo[bi] q[uod] ad laude[m] ill  
 no[m]i[n]is dei 7 ministerij sui co[m]mendat[i]o[n]em impleuit. iuxta q[uo]d p[re]de[cessor] a[n]tecessor n[ost]r[u]m p[re]cepit. palleu[m]  
 Johi a[n]tecessori tuo indulgit. 7 ne deceto p[re]uicac[i]e Norwiche metropolitani cura possit deesse. co  
 missa gub[er]natio[n]i. sue urbem Norwiche eide[m] p[re]uicacie p[er]petua metropolim ordinauit. 7 ei ad  
 locu[m]. Annapriem. Baugen. Struangeriu[m]. Insulas Orcades. Insulas fere. Suthaxe. 7 Ma[n]den  
 7 Grenelandie Ep[iscopatus] equa[m] sue metropoli p[re]uicac[i]e t[em]porib[us] co[n]stituit subiacere. 7 eoru[m] ep[iscopos] sic  
 metropolitani suis tam sibi q[uam] suis successorib[us] obedire. Ne igit[ur] ad uiolencia[m] co[n]stitutio[n]i ip[s]i  
 ali uic[em] liceat asserere. nos se. me. p[re]de[cessor] Eugenij. Alex[ander]. Anq[ue] Clementis p[re]de[cessor] n[ost]r[u]m Romani po  
 ntificis ueligijs inherentes. em[en]d[ation]e co[n]stitutio[n]i. auo. a. co. 7 p[re]f. p[re]f. co. Statuentes ut Norwiche et  
 uitas sup[er]dicta[m] urbem p[re]uicac[i]e t[em]porib[us] metropolis h[ab]eat. 7 eay[us] qui ta[m] ali q[uam] h[uius] successorib[us]  
 sic suo metropolitani obediat. 7 de manu n[ost]ra co[n]secratio[n]is gra[m] sortiantur. Successores aut[em]  
 qui ad Romani pontificis t[em]p[or]e p[re]parati donu[m] co[n]secratio[n]is accedat. 7 ei solūmodo 7 Romani eccle  
 subiecti semp[er] existat. porro co[n]cesso tibi palleo. pontificali. officij plenitudine. infra eccl[esi]am  
 tuam ad sacra nullay[us] sollempnia p[er] uniuersa p[re]uicacia[m] tua[m] h[uius] solūmodo dieb[us] uti firmas  
 tua debet. qui inferi legunt[ur] inscripti. Nat[ur]itate d[omi]ni. Epiph[ania]. Cena d[omi]ni. Resur  
 reccio[n]e. Ascensione. p[entecoste]. In sollempnitatib[us] be[ati] dei genitricis l[uce] p[er]q[ue] uirg[inem] marie. Nata  
 licio be[ati] petri 7 pauli. Inuentio[n]e 7 exaltatio[n]e s[an]cte crucis. Nat[ur]itate be[ati] Johis baptiste. Festo  
 be[ati] Johis euang[eli]ste. Co[m]memoratio[n]e o[mn]iu[m] sc[or]u[m]. In co[n]secratio[n]ib[us] eccl[esi]ar[um] uel ep[iscop]o[rum]. Benedic[ti]o[n]ib[us]  
 alio[m]. ordinatio[n]ib[us] p[re]b[er]e. In die co[n]secratio[n]is eccl[esi]e tue. ac festis s[an]cte trinitatis 7 s[an]cte Olau  
 7 annu[er]sario tue co[n]secratio[n]is die. Studeat g[ra]t[ia] tua. f. plenitudine. tante dignitatis s[an]cto  
 p[re]ta ut strenue cuncta p[er]age. quanta[m] mox tuor[um] ornamenti[m] erde[m] ualeat co[n]uenire. Sit in  
 ta tua subditis ex[em]pli. ut p[er] ea cognoscat[ur] quid debeat appere. quid negant[ur] uiuere. Et o[mn]i  
 erit[ur] p[re]cipuis. cogitatio[n]e m[en]tis. actio[n]e pur[us] discret[us] in silē[n]tio. uti in u[er]bo. cura tibi sit  
 magis p[re]de[cessor] h[ab]e[re] q[uam] p[re]de[cessor]. No[n] in te potestate ordinis. sed equitate optet p[re]de[cessor] co[n]duco[n]is.  
 Stude ne uita doctrina destituat. nec tuu[m] uita doctrina co[n]tradicat. M[en]tito q[uo]d ear[um]  
 artium regim[en] a[n]te. Sup[er] o[mn]ia studiū tibi sit aplice se. decreta firmit[er] obseruare. 7 ta[m]  
 q[uam] matri 7 d[omi]n[u]m tuo ei iulio obedire. Ecce sic in xpo h[ab]e[re] uita[m] multa alia h[ab]e[re] pallei.  
 h[ab]e[re] sacerdoti. q[uo]niam facile xpo adiuuante adimplere potis. si uirtutū o[mn]iu[m] imaginem  
 caritate h[ab]e[re]is 7 humilitate. 7 q[uo]d foris h[ab]e[re] ostendis. intus h[ab]e[re]bis. Dedim[us] g[ra]t[ia] 7 c. usq[ue] in  
 fine. Dat[um] Rom[ae] ap[ud] s[an]cti p[et]ri p[ri]m[um] io. f. an[no] m. c. lxxviii. die s[an]cte car[ol]i. sic Romani eccle[si]e cancella  
 rijs. Jo[han]n[es] f[est]u[m]. Indict[us]. In curia. duodecimo anno. ep[iscop]o. cc. v. pontificat[us] n[ost]r[u]m domini Innocentij. pp.  
 .iii. Anno octauo. G[ra]t[ia] d[omi]ni.

*Continuation of the Type Text of the Letter of Pope  
Innocent III.*

curaverunt studio adimplere et per universum orbem nunc per se nunc per legatos suos corrigenda corrigere et statuenda statuere summopere studuerunt. Quorum quoque vestigia subsecutus felicitis memorie Eugenius papa, antecessor noster, de corrigendis hiis, que in regno Norweie correctionem videbantur exposcere et verbo ibi fidei seminando iuxta sui officii debitum sollicitus extitit, et quod per se ipsum, universalis ecclesie cura obsistente, non potuit, per legatum suum Nicholaum; tunc scilicet Albanensem episcopum, qui postea in Romanum pontificem est assumptus, executioni mandavit. Qui ad partes accedens, sicut a suo patrefamilias acceperat in mandatis, talentum sibi creditum largitus est ad usuram et tamquam fidelis servus et prudens, multiplicatum inde fructum studuit reportare. Inter cetera vero, que ad laudem illic nominis Dei et ministerii sui commendationem implevit, iuxta quod predictus antecessor noster ei preceperat, palleum Iohanni antecessori tuo indulsit et, ne de cetero provincie Norweie metropolitani cura possit deesse, commissam gubernationi tue urbem Nidrosiensem eiusdem provincie perpetuam metropolim ordinavit et ei Asloensem, Amatripiensem, Bargensem, Stavangriensem, insulas Orcades, insulas Fareie, Sutrhaie et Islandensem et Grenelandie episcopatus tamquam sue metropoli perpetuis temporibus constituit subiaceret et eorum episcopos sicut metropolitani suis tam sibi quam suis successoribus obedire. Ne igitur ad violentiam constitutionis ipsius ulli unquam liceat aspirare, nos felicitis memorie predicti Eugenii et Alexandri atque Clementis predecessorum nostrorum Romanorum pontificum vestigiis inherentes, eandem constitutionem auctoritate apostolica confirmamus et presentis scripti privilegio communimus, statuentes ut Nidrosiensis civitas supradictarum urbium perpetuis temporibus metropolis habeatur, et earum episcopi tam tibi quam tuis successoribus sicut suo metropolitano obediant et de manu vestra consecrationis gratiam sortiantur, successores autem tui ad Romanum pontificem tantum percepturi donum consecrationis accedant, et ei solummodo et Romane ecclesie subiecti semper existant. Porro concessio tibi palleo pontificalis scilicet officii plenitudine infra ecclesiam tantum ad sacra missarum sollempnia per universam provinciam tuam hiis solummodo diebus uti fraternitas tua debebit, qui inferius leguntur inscripti: Nativitate Domini, Epiphania, Cena Domini, Resurrectione, Ascensione, Pentecoste, in sollempnitatibus beate Dei Genitricis semperque virginis Marie, Natalicio beatorum Petri et Pauli, Inventione et Exaltatione sancte Crucis, Nativitate beati Iohannis baptiste, festo beati Iohannis evangeliste, Commemoratione omnium sanctorum, in consecrationibus ecclesiarum vel episcoporum, benedictionibus abbatum, ordinationibus presbiterorum, in die consecrationis ecclesie tue ac festis sancte Trinitatis, et sancti Olavi et anniversario tue consecrationis die. Studeat ergo tua fraternitas plenitudine tante dignitatis suscepta ita strenue cuncta peragere, quatinus morum tuorum ornamenta eidem valeant convenire. Sit vita tua subditis exemplum, ut per eam cognoscant, quid debeant appetere, quid cogantur vitare; esto discretione precipuus, cogitatione mundus, actione purus, discretus in silentio, utilis in verbo, cura tibi sit magis prodesse hominibus quam preesse. Non in te potestatem ordinis, sed equalitatem oportet pensare conditionis. Stude ne vita doctrinam destituat, nec cursum vite doctrina contradicat. Memento quod est ars artium regimen animarum. Super omnia studium tibi sit apostolice sedis decreta firmiter observare et tamquam matri et domine tue ei humiliter obedire. Ecce frater in Christo karissime inter multa alia hec sunt pallei, hec sacerdotii, que omnia facile Christo adiuvante adimplere poteris, si virtutum omnium magistram caritatem habueris et humilitatem, et quod foris habere ostenderis intus habebis. Decernimus ergo et c. usque in finem. Dat. Rome apud Sanctum Petrum per manus Iohannis, Sancte Marie in Cosmedin diaconi cardinalis, sancte Romane ecclesie cancellarii, idibus februarii, indictione vj, incarnationis dominice anno M<sup>o</sup>CC<sup>o</sup>V<sup>o</sup>, pontificatus vero domini Innocentii pape iij anno octavo.



*English Translation of the Letter of Pope Innocent III.*

(INNOCENT III.)

(Feb. 1206.)

1. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF NIDROSI (Nidros) and his successors canonically appointed, in perpetuity. Although indeed the power to bind and loose was granted to all the Apostles, and although the injunction to preach the Gospel to every creature applied to all, still, as it were, there obtained with them a certain distinction in rank, and one in particular undertook to secure that care of the Lord's sheep which was incumbent upon all; for to him the Lord said: "Peter, lovest thou me? Feed my sheep!" This one, moreover, was called Prince of the Apostles, and received special instruction from the Lord about fortifying his brethren, as it should be understood by posterity, that, although many would be ordained for the ministry of the Church, still only one should have the position and distinction of supreme authority, and preside in governing and judging all. Hence, not only has the Church observed the distinction in rank, but also, just as in the human body the various members have been designed for different functions, so, in the organism of the Church, different persons have been assigned to various grades and tasks. Thus while some have been given the administration of single churches and others that of single cities, still others, whose judgment should have the greatest weight with their brethren, and to whose investigation are to be referred all questions and undertakings of their inferiors, have been established in single provinces. Above all, however, the Roman Pontiff is recognized as holding the highest office just as Noe in the Ark; by his heaven-sent prerogative as Prince of the Apostles, he judges and disposes of all difficulties, and, throughout the earth never ceases to strengthen the sons of the Church in the Christian Faith, always carefully demanding himself as one who had received the word of the Lord: "And thou, being once converted, confirm thy brethren!" This injunction, in truth, those Apostles and others, who succeeded the blessed Peter in the duties of the Apostolic See, sought, with untiring zeal, to carry out, and throughout the globe made every effort, either personally or through their Legates, to right the wrong and decide the undetermined. Following in their footsteps, Pope Eugenius, Our predecessor of blessed memory, in the spirit of his office, ardently desired to plant the Faith in the Kingdom of Norway and to remove those evils which seemed there especially in need of remedy; and whatever he could not himself accomplish, impeded as he was by the care of the Universal Church, he committed to his legate, Nicolas, then Bishop of Alba and afterwards raised to the Roman Pontificate. Nicholas, upon assuming office, put out at interest the talent loaned to him, even as it had been enjoined on him by his master, and like a true and prudent servant, strove to reap therefrom a harvest many times increased. But among other things which he accomplished for the glory of God and to the praise of his own ministry, in accordance with the admonition of Our aforesaid predecessor, he conferred the Pallium upon your predecessor, John; and in order that the rest of the Norwegian province might not lack the attention of a metropolitan, he decreed that the city of Nidrosi (Nidros), committed to your direction, be the permanent metropolis of the

*Continuation of the English Translation of the Letter of Pope Innocent III.*

province, and that Aslo, Amatripia, Barga, Stavangria, the Orcade (Orkneys) Islands, the Islands of Fareia (Faroës), the bishoprics of Sutrhaia, Iceland, and Greenland, be subject to it forever as their metropolis, and that their bishops obey both him (your predecessor) and his successors as their metropolitans. Accordingly, that no one may ever attempt to violate this ordinance, We, after the example of the aforesaid Eugenius of blessed memory, and of Alexander and Clement, Our predecessors in the Roman Pontificate, confirm the same by apostolic authority, and seal it by this document, wherein We determine that the City of Nidrosi be regarded for all time as the metropolis of the above named cities, and that the bishop of the latter obey both you and your successors as their metropolitans, and receive the grace of consecration at your hands; but that your successors apply to the Roman Pontiff for so great a gift of consecration, and remain forever subject to him alone and to the Roman Church. Moreover, the Pallium granted you, the fullness, namely, of the pontifical office subject to the Church, your Fraternity should use at the solemn celebration of Mass throughout your province only on the days inscribed below: the Nativity of Our Lord, Epiphany, Corpus Christi, Easter, the Ascension of Our Lord, Pentecost, the festivals of the blessed Mother of God, Mary, ever Virgin, the Natal days of blessed Peter and Paul, the day of the Finding and Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Nativity of John the Baptist, the feast of blessed John the Evangelist, the Feast of All Saints, at the consecration of churches and bishops, at the blessing of abbots, at the ordination of priests, on the day of the consecration of your church, on the feasts of the blessed Trinity, and of St. Olaf, and on the anniversary of your consecration. Let your Fraternity, therefore, now that you have received the fullness of such dignity, earnestly endeavor to accomplish all things in such a way that the excellence of your character may rise as much as possible to the same standard. Let your life be an example to your inferiors, that they may learn therein what to seek and what to avoid; be first in discretion, elegant in thought, pure in deed, judicious in silence, practical in speech, and let your aim be rather to benefit than to rule mankind. For it is proper that others be impressed, not with the importance of your rank, but with the equality of your condition. Let not your life forsake your teaching, nor your teaching contradict your life. Remember that the art of arts is the direction of souls. Above all things be careful to observe unflinchingly the decrees of the Apostolic See, and to obey the latter humbly as your mother and your master. Behold, dear brother in Christ, among many others, these are the duties of the Pallium, these the duties of the priesthood, all of which you will easily be able to fulfill with Christ's assistance, if you will cultivate humility and charity, the mistress of virtues, and if your interior will be even as your exterior. We decree, therefore, and confirm (?) the above to the end of time.

Given in Rome, at St. Peter's, by the hand of John, Cardinal Deacon of St. Mary in Cosmedin, Chancellor of the Holy Roman Church, on the Ides of February, in the sixth indication, the year of the Incarnation of Our Lord MCCVI, the eighth year of the Pontificate of Pope Innocent III.



*Manuscript Letter of Pope John XXI to the Archbishop of  
Nidros, 1276.*

**T**ua nobis fratimur intimavit quod cum tunc collectio decime tunc sit in Regno Norvingie per litteras ap-  
prie commissu et litteris ipsas tunc eripisse ut oēs partes eade Regni decimas propter hoc p[ro]p[ri]ali mili-  
tate idq[ue] quodammodo impossibile videat[ur] cum eandem dioc[esim] q[ue] de tua p[ro]vincia et Regno existit eadem  
a metropolitana eade adeo sit remota q[ue] de ipsa eade illuc p[ro]p[ri]e mans impedimenta un[de] infra Quinqu-  
m[en]s[is] ne quis valeat et redire ad eade sup[er]dicta ac ideo dubites quod adhuc infra ip[s]is spatii ad so-  
lutione ip[s]i decime constituti aplici sine tui ad partes illas nō valeat p[er]venire mandatu[m] postu-  
lasti sup[er] hoc p[er] ap[osto]lic[um] se p[ro]videntia remedii adhiberi. Cupientes igit[ur] ut collectio eade decime solli-  
cio studio increment[um] volu[er]it et f[aci]t. r. p[er] ap[osto]lic[um] s. m[agist]r[um] q[uod] si p[re]missa iuris committit aliquas p[ar]tes videas  
et fideles sup[er] q[ui]bus tui iurisdic[ti]o cōsistat onerare ad partes illas destinare p[er]curres q[uod] ad executione[m]  
collectionis eade diliget[er] iungit et intēdat. Aliasq[ue] sup[er] hoc p[ro]ut studeas p[ro]ut utilitati eade  
decime iudicis expedire nichō ad collectione[m] h[uius]m[od]i p[er] te ip[s]m[us] operose sollicitudis studiū ip[s]u[m]  
nos. Ita q[uod] p[ro]vide t[ibi] a d[omi]no p[ri]mū cōpares et sedis ap[osto]lic[ę] g[ra]t[ia] uberi[m]us merearis. Dat[um] Viē[n]n[ę] .ij.

Non Decemb[er] Anno p[ri]mo. Eadem:—

**T**ua nobis et usq[ue] in Regno Norvingie sit missa p[er] se ap[osto]lic[is] litteris spales et iuris tunc eripisse.



FROM THE VATICAN LIBRARY.

*Type Text of Letter of Pope John XXI to the Archbishop of Nidros.*

[Ioannes XXI.]

[4 Dec. 1276.]

2. . . Archiepiscopo Nidrosiensi. Tua nobis fraternitas intimavit, quod, cum tibi collectio decime Terre Sancte in regno Norwagie per litteras apostolicas sit commissum et in litteris ipsis contineatur expresse, ut omnes partes eiusdem regni debeas propter hoc personaliter visitare, idque quodammodo impossibile videatur, cum Gardensis diocesis, que de tua provincia et regno existit eodem, a metropolitana ecclesia adeo sit remota, quod de ipsa ecclesia illuc propter maris impedimenta vix infra quinquennium ire quis valeat et redire ad ecclesiam supradictam, ac ideo dubites, quod adhuc infra temporis spatium ad solutionem ipsius decime constituti apostolicum sive tuum ad partes illas non valeat pervenire mandatum; postulasti super hoc per apostolice sedis providentiam remedium adhiberi. Cupientes igitur, ut collectioni eiusdem decime sollicitis studiis intendatur, volumus et fraternitati tue per apostolica scripta mandamus, quatinus, si premissa veritas comitetur, aliquas personas ydoneas et fideles, super quibus tuam intendimus conscientiam onerare, ad partes illas destinare procures, que ad executionem collectionis eiusdem diligenter invigilent et intendant aliasque super hoc providere studeas, prout utilitati eiusdem decime videris expedire; nichilominus ad collectionem huiusmodi per te ipsum operose sollicitudinis studium impensurus, ita quod proinde tibi a Domino premium compares et sedis apostolice gratiam uberius merearis. Dat. Viterbii 11 nonas decembris, anno primo.
3. Eidem. Tua nobis et c. usque in regno Norwagie sit commissa per sedis apostolice litteras speciales, et in eis contineatur expresse,

*English Translation of the Second Part of the Letter of Pope John XXI.*

(JOHN XXI.)

(Dec. 4, 1276.)

2. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF NIDROSI. Your Fraternity has informed Us that, whereas in the Kingdom of Norway, the collection of the tithe for the Holy Land has been entrusted to you by Apostolic Letters, in which it is expressly declared that you shall personally visit all parts of the Kingdom for that purpose, this seems in a measure impossible, since the diocese of Garda, subject to your province and said Kingdom, is so far distant from the metropolitan church that, because of the difficulties of navigation, one can scarcely make the voyage, thither and return, in less than five years; so that you doubt that the apostolic command, or your own, can reach those parts within the time appointed for the payment of the tithe; you have therefore besought the Apostolic See to provide some solution of the difficulty. Desiring, then, that the gathering of the tithe be carried on with earnest zeal, We order and command your Fraternity by Apostolic Letters, that if the foregoing conditions are true, that you procure for those regions suitable and faithful persons, in regard to whom We purpose to bind your conscience, and who are to watch over and attend carefully to the collection of the tithe, and that you endeavor furthermore to provide other persons, accordingly as you will find it expedient for the tithe; nevertheless you should also apply yourself with diligent solicitude to the latter, that you may thereby prepare for yourself a reward from God, and merit more plentifully the favor of the Apostolic See. Given at Viterbo, on the day before the Nonse of December, in the first year (of Our Pontificate).



Continuation of Manuscript Letter of Pope John XXI to the  
Archbishop of Nidros.

ut oēs cū Regno ptes decas ppter hoc pleali uilitate ac ples dioc i Regno ipso tuas pui  
cia constituit p manio spacia adeo sit dispse ac itra suos limites dilatare q fere ifra sex m  
nos r absq; grauissimo ecē tue dispēdio ptes oēs pōcā plōali uilitate dioc difficile tibi  
foret cū nōnq; p diem q; nq; ac ples etiā te p talia loca pcedē opōtēt i qb; ob domoz de  
fectū tēi defēre tētona cogentis cōcedi t ut p easte dioc sup collectōe ipi decie cōsūmōs  
tuos ydōcos r illos mādato ap dno nō obstāte deputare ualeas postulasti. Nos itaq; tua  
r ecē tue dispēdia euitātes t ut si pmissis uenis existētib; expedire uideas sup quo tuā itē  
dīm cōlatiā onerare. Nūnos hmoi p easte dioc sup ipi decie collectōe deputare ualeas  
tenore pte. dū pcedendū. Volētes nichō ut tu illas ex pōis dioc plū uilitas quas absq; ma  
gno icomodo potis uilitare. sollicitū studiū adhibēs tū collectōe; decie sup dōc. Ita q; etn  
pmissū expectes a dno cū negotiū agit r fauorē ap ubi mēans. Dāt ut s. Eadem.

**I**namasti nob q cū ppter nimia spaciū diffusioē: Regni Norðlagie i quo t p ap lūtas collec  
tis decie tū sē deputate subsidio ēmissa duo collectores mī pmissioē ap se i q; dioc  
ordinari nequa; sufficiāt ad ipam decimā colligendā n p illos posset cōmode colligi absq;  
magno pfluio exēclā. tu cū sūlio r assētu suffraganeoz tuoz ipi Regni p hmoi utilitatē  
negotij statuisti p tūm singlar dioc ples alios collectores q suis laborib; r tēpēis pōcā  
decimā colligit r collectā statutis tēpib; duob; collectorib; deferit q sūt i ciuitatib; depū.  
vñ nob hūilr sup. ut eoz collector rularūi labores r sūptus benigna meditatioē pen  
sātes aliqui illis indulgētiā cōcedē auarēm. Volētes itaq; ut ydē collectores riales  
fructū ex suis laborib; r sūptib; psequēt eis illā indulgētiā imptrm que ad pmoctōē  
negotij tū sē opē r opēri ēhibētib; ē cōcessa. Dāt ut s. Eadem.

**I**namasti nob q i Regno Norðlagie i quo t decie tū sē collectio ēmissa usq; adeo  
uilio ē moneta dimoscat uisualis q ex ipi Regni limites i pno nō habet q; i q; cā  
ptib; Regni monete usus aliq; nō existit n̄ crescit segetes nei frugū alia genā  
poucit. s; lactamys r piscib; fere dūtaxat uita mibi sustentat hūana. Qr sufficiā  
t a nob hūilr petinisti. q; de decia que de lactamys r piscib; r moneta pōis colligit  
decas ordinare. Nos igit ad ea q sūt utiliora negotio intēdentes expedire uidēm ut  
pmissis ueris pmissib; in Aurū ul Argentū put cōmodi s; pōit hmoi moneta r decia  
sūtāt. De monalib; aut r pōis alijs reglarib; dā Regni quoz puer r reddō ecē  
adeo sūt tenuēs r exiles q ex illis sustentari nō possūt s; p habēda uite sue subste  
tatioē necē habēt pī. mēdicare r belemosinas petē. seruare potē q in declamatioē  
sup ipi decione edias plenū ptingēt. Dāt ut s. Eadem.



ut omnes eiusdem regni partes debeas propter hoc personaliter visitare, ac plures dioceses in regno ipso tuaque provincia constitute per maris spatia adeo sint disperse ac intra suos limites dilatate, quod fere infra sex annos et absque gravissimo ecclesie tue dispendio partes omnes predictarum personaliter visitare diocesum difficile tibi foret, cum nonnunquam per dietas quinque ac plures etiam te per talia loca procedere oporteret, in quibus ob domorum defectum tecum deferre tentoria cogereris, concedi tibi, ut per easdem dioceses super collectione ipsius decime certos nuntios tuos ydoneos et discretos, mandato apostolico contrario non obstante, deputare valeas postulasti. Nos itaque tua et ecclesie tue dispendia evitantes, tibi, ut, si premissis veris existentibus expedire videris, super quo tuam intendimus conscientiam onerare, nuntios huiusmodi per easdem dioceses super ipsius decime collectione deputare valeas, tenore presentium duximus concedendum; volentes nichilominus, ut tu illas ex predictis diocesibus personaliter visites, quas absque magno incomodo poteris visitare, sollicitum studium adhibens circa collectionem decime supradicte, ita quod exinde premium expectes a Domino, cuius negotium agitur, et favorem apostolicum uberius merearius. Dat. ut supra.

4. Eidem. Intimasti nobis, quod, cum propter nimiam episcopatum diffusionem regni Norwagie, in quo tibi per apostolicas litteras collectio decime Terre Sancte deputate subsidio est commissa, duo collectores iuxta promissionem [*l. permissionem*] apostolice sedis in qualibet diocesi ordinati nequaquam sufficiant ad ipsam decimam colligendam, nec per illos posset commodè colligi absque magno profluvio expensarum, tu cum consilio et assensu suffraganeorum tuorum ipsius regni pro huiusmodi utilitate negotii statuisti per rura singularum diocesum plures alios collectores, qui suis laboribus et expensis predictam decimam colligant et collectam statutis temporibus duobus collectoribus deferant, qui sunt in civitatibus deputati, unde nobis humiliter supplicasti, ut eorundem collectorum rularium [*l. ruralium*] labores et sumptus benigna meditatione pensantes, aliquam illis indulgentiam, concedere curaremus. Volentes itaque, ut iidem collectores rurales fructum ex suis laboribus et sumptibus consequantur, eis illam indulgentiam impartimur, que ad promotionem negotii Terre Sancte opem et operam exhibentibus est concessa. Dat. ut supra.

5. Eidem. Intimasti nobis, quod in regno Norwagie, in quo tibi decime Terre Sancte collectio est commissa, usque adeo vilis esse moneta dinoscitur usualis, quod extra ipsius regni limites in pretio non habetur, quodque in quibusdam partibus dicti regni monete usus aliquis non existit nec crescant segetes neque frugum alia genera producuntur, sed lacticiniis et piscibus fere dumtaxat vita inibi sustentatur humana. Quare significari tibi a nobis humiliter petivisti, quid de decima, que de lacticiniis et piscibus et moneta predictis colligitur, debeas ordinare. Nos igitur ad ea, que sunt utiliora negotio intendentes expedire videmus, ut, premissis veris existentibus, in aurum vel argentum, prout commodius fieri poterit, huiusmodi moneta et decima convertantur. De monialibus autem et personis aliis regularibus dicti regni, quorum proventus et redditus ecclesiastici adeo sunt tenues et exiles, quod ex illis sustentari non possunt, sed pro habenda vite sue sustentatione necesse habeant publice mendicare et helemosinas petere, servare poteris, quod in declarationibus super ipsius decime editis plenius continetur. Dat. ut supra.



*English Translation of the Letter of Pope John XXI (continued).*

3. TO THE SAME. Your Fraternity has informed Us that, whereas, in the Kingdom of Norway, the collection of the tithe for the Holy Land has been entrusted to you by special Letters of the Apostolic See, in which it is expressly declared that you should personally visit all parts of said Kingdom for that purpose, the majority of the dioceses of the Kingdom and of your province are so scattered through the expanse of the sea and so extended within their own limits that it would be difficult for you to visit all parts of the said dioceses even in six years and at very great expense to your church, since frequently, for five days at a time and more, you would have to travel through regions where, because of the want of houses, you would be forced to carry tents with you; wherefore you have asked permission to delegate certain prudent and able Nuncios of yours to gather the tithe in those dioceses, any Apostolic order to the contrary notwithstanding. We, therefore, wishing to diminish your expenses and those of your church, have decided to grant, by the tenor of the present document, that, if you will find it expedient under the above conditions, duly verified, in regard to which We intend to bind your conscience, you may delegate the said Nuncios to collect the tithe in said provinces; at the same time, however, We wish that you visit in person those of the said dioceses which you will be able to visit without great inconvenience, and display zealous solicitude in the collection of said tithe, that you may expect therefore a reward from the Lord, Whose interest it is, and merit also greater apostolic favor. Given as above.

4. TO THE SAME. You have informed Us that, because of the exceeding territorial extent of the bishoprics of the Kingdom of Norway, where the collection of the tithe intended for the help of the Holy Land has been assigned to you, two collectors, appointed in each diocese by permission of the Apostolic See, are by no means sufficient for gathering the tithe, nor able to do so conveniently and without greatly increased expenses; and therefore, you, with the advice and consent of your Suffragans of the same Kingdom, have appointed many other collectors in the rural districts of the various dioceses, who, at their own labor and expense, gather the said tithe and deliver it, on the days appointed, to two collectors delegated for the cities; wherefore you have humbly besought Us that, rewarding the toil and expenditure of those rural collectors with fatherly consideration, We grant them some indulgence. Wishing, therefore, that the same rural collectors receive some compensation for their toil and expenditures, We impart to them that indulgence which has been granted to those who bestow means and labor upon furthering the cause of the Holy Land. Given as above.

5. TO THE SAME. You have informed Us that in the Kingdom of Norway, in which the collection of the tithe for the Holy Land has been entrusted to you, ordinary money (coin) is held so cheap that outside the Kingdom it is not in demand; furthermore, that in certain parts of said Kingdom coined money is not in use, nor does corn grow, nor are other kinds of staple food produced, but human life is sustained almost entirely on milkfood and fish. For this reason you have humbly besought Us to declare what you should decree about the tithe gathered from said milkfood and fish and money. We, therefore, mindful of what is of greater utility for the undertaking, deem it well to propose that, if the above conditions are true, said money and tithe be converted into gold or silver, according to convenience. But with regard to the monks and other religious of said Kingdom, whose ecclesiastical income and returns are so small and insignificant that they cannot draw their support therefrom, but find it necessary for their sustenance to beg publicly and ask alms, you may observe the directions previously given in the instructions about the said tithe. Given as above.



FROM THE VATICAN LIBRARY.

*Manuscript Letter of Pope Nicolas III to the Archbishop of  
Nidros, 1279.*

**E**t transmissa nobis nup̄ tunc collegim' serie litterarū qđ Insula in qua Civitas con-  
stet consistit p̄pter malitiā maris Oceani ista quod ipsa consistit raro nauigio visi-  
tari. Vñ cū nup̄ qđ nautae ad eandē Insule uisitationē tenderēt uela in altum  
tu h̄mōi op̄tunitate captata quēdā discretū Vinū colligēdi decimā cōmisso ē  
officio cū dās nautas ad Civitatē transmisisti eandē ⁊ sub spē n̄re ratificatiōis  
cōcessisti eīdē ut clicos ab excois suā quā p̄ eo qđ h̄mōi decimā in statutis  
sup̄ hoc t̄manis nō soluerūt mānerāt absolueret ⁊ cū eis dispēsaret sup̄ irre-  
glantate signā p̄inde fōlitan cōtraxerūt. Qr̄ a nobis hūiliter postulasti ut ratifi-  
care b̄nigni dignarem'. Cū itaq; h̄mōi postulatiōi ut p̄ore q̄ratōis umbr̄ nō  
uiuāt acquiesce fauorabili neq̄am ac p̄ hoc cupiētes h̄mōi tuis desideriis annu-  
ere ⁊ aiaz piculis p̄ cōsequēs occurrē p̄uisionis remedio salutaris p̄sentū tibi  
autē om̄ictū ut absoluedi clicos cū in p̄dā quā alijs Insulis maris eīdē p̄sti-  
tutos a p̄dā suā iuxta fōmā ec̄ ⁊ dispēsandi cū eis sup̄ irreglantate h̄mōi  
lilere om̄ictē ualeās officiū hys quos p̄pter collectōis ministeriū ad p̄dicas  
Insulas destinasti ul' fōlitan ipostez destinabis. Dāt Rom ap̄d sc̄m petrū  
11 kl' februarij Anno Secundo. Etc̄an: ~



[Nicolaus III.]

[31 Ian. 1279.]

6. Venerabili fratri .. archiepiscopo Nidrosiensi. Ex transmissa nobis nuper tuarum collegimus serie litterarum, quod insula, in qua civitas Cardensis consistit, propter malitiam maris Oceani, infra quod ipsa consistit, raro navigio visitantur; unde, cum nuper quidam naute ad eiusdem insule visitationem tenderent vela in altum, tu huiusmodi oportunitate captata quendam discretum virum, colligendi decimam commisso sibi officio, cum dictis nautis ad civitatem transmissisti eandem, et sub spe nostre ratificationis concessisti eidem, ut clericos ab excommunicationis sententia, quam pro eo quod huiusmodi decimam in statutis super hoc terminis non solverunt incurrerant, absolveret et cum eis dispensaret super irregularitate, si quam proinde forsitan contraxerunt. Quare a nobis humiliter postulasti, ut ratificare benignius dignaremur. Cum itaque huiusmodi postulationi, ut pote que rationis viribus non iuvatur, [*l. iuvatur, non*] acquiescere favorabiliter nequeamus, ac propter hoc cupientes huiusmodi tuis desideriis annuere et animarum periculis per consequens occurrere provisionis remedio salutaris, presentium tibi auctoritate commictimus, ut absolvendi clericos tam in predicta quam aliis insulis maris eiusdem constitutos a predicta sententia iuxta formam ecclesie et dispensandi cum eis super irregularitate huiusmodi libere commictere valeas officium hiis, quos propter collectionis ministerium ad predictas insulas destinasti vel forsitan imposterum destinabis. Dat. Rome apud Sanctum Petrum 11 kalendas februarii, anno secundo..

FROM THE VATICAN LIBRARY.

*English Translation of the Letter of Pope Nicolas III, January, 1279.*

(NICOLAS III.)

(Jan. 31, 1279.)

6. TO OUR VENERABLE BROTHER—ARCHBISHOP OF NIDROSI. From the series of your letters, lately transmitted to Us, we gather that the island, on which stands the City of Garda\*, is seldom visited by ships, because of the dangers of the Ocean surrounding it; wherefore, when of late certain seamen set sail for this same island, you, embracing the opportunity, sent a certain prudent man with them to the same city, having commissioned him to collect the tithe, and, in the hope of securing Our ratification, you have empowered him to absolve the clerics from the sentence of excommunication which they had incurred for not paying the tithe within the appointed time, and to dispense them from any irregularity which perchance they contracted therefrom. For this reason you have humbly besought Us to kindly ratify your action. Since, then We cannot but acquiesce favorably in this request, inasmuch as it is highly reasonable, and wishing therefore to approve of your desire and to avert in consequence the danger of souls by means of a salutary remedy, We invest you with authority to grant freely to those whom you have sent to said islands in the matter of the collection, or perhaps will send in the future, the function of absolving the clerics, as well in said island as in others of the same Ocean, from said sentence according to the ecclesiastical forms, and of dispensing them from the same irregularity. Given in Rome, at St. Peter's, on the day preceding the Calends of February, in the second year (of Our Pontificate).



FROM THE VATICAN LIBRARY.

*Manuscript Letter of Pope Nicolas III to the Archbishop of  
Nidros, June, 1279.*

**T**enuer sigficante accepi qd i cathedralibz ecclesijs i Dacie 7 Ducie Regnis constitutis nonnulli redditus et ratione fidelium deputati existunt ex qbus p psona ad hoc spcialiter deputata ecclesie ecclesiarum istarum eadem Regna consistuntium unum 7 octavo annis singulis remittantur. Quia vero an de huiusmodi redditibus exigi debeat decima consultatione a sede apostolica postulasti nos tua diligentia commendantes dist. r. p. ap. f. n. qd si puerit ipse sit adeo magni q multitudine uino 7 octavo multum ex illis nouis superce uolumus qd de illis huiusmodi decima persoluat. Si non accipit aliquid ex predictis redditibus superce nichil persoluat de ipsis p reuerentia diuini cultus 7 domini sacramentum. Dat. uirg.



FROM THE VATICAN LIBRARY.

*Latin Type Text of Letter of Pope Nicolas III to the Archbishop of Nidros.*

[Nicolaus III.]

[9 Iun. 1279.]

7. Eidem [magistro Bertrando Amalrici]. Te nuper significante accepimus, quod in cathedralibus ecclesiis in Datie et Suetie regnis constitutis nonnulli redditus devotione fidelium deputati existunt, ex quibus per personam ad hoc specialiter deputatam clericis ecclesiarum infra eadem regna consistentium vinum et ostie annis singulis ministrantur. Quia vero, an de huiusmodi redditibus exigere debeat decima, consultationem a sede apostolica postulasti, nos tuam diligentiam commendantes discretioni tue per apostolica scripta mandamus, quatinus, si proventus ipsi sint adeo magni, quod ministratis vino et ostiis multum ex illis noveris superesse, volumus, quod de illis huiusmodi decima persolvatur; si vero nihil vel parum ex predictis redditibus superesset, nichil persolvatur de ipsis propter reverentiam divini cultus et Domini sacramentum. Dat. ut supra. [Rome apud Sanctum Petrum v idus iunii, anno secundo].

*English Translation of the Letter of Pope Nicolas III to the Archbishop of Nidros.*

(NICOLAS III.)

(June 9, 1279.)

7. TO THE SAME (MASTER BERTRAND OF AMALRICUS). We learn from your recent communication that, in the Cathedrals of the Kingdoms of Datia and Suetia, there exist certain endowments established by the devotion of the faithful, out of which, year after year, wine and hosts are provided for the priests of the churches in those Kingdoms by a person specially appointed for this office. Since, however, you have sought instructions from the Apostolic See as to whether or not the tithe should be taken from these endowments, We, commending your zeal, entrust to your discretion, by Apostolic Letters, that, if the income is so great that you know there will be much left over after the wine and hosts have been supplied, the tithe be taken from those revenues; but if little or nothing of the aforesaid income would remain, let nothing be paid therefrom, out of reverence for the divine worship and the Lord's Sacrament. Given as above. (In Rome, at St. Peter's, on the fifth day before the Ides of June, in the second year of Our Pontificate).



Manuscript Letter of Pope Martin IV to the Archbishop of  
Nidros, 1282.

**T**ua nobis fraternitas intimavit qd decima q in Islandie & ferorum Insulas in Be-  
gno norwegie costi<sup>na</sup> in diuisis rebz p<sup>re</sup>solut<sup>is</sup> q de facili pmutari ul pecunialit<sup>er</sup> uendi  
nō possūt, p<sup>ro</sup>p<sup>ter</sup> quod decia eadē nequit ad tēra scām ul ad sedē ap<sup>osto</sup>licā comode destina-  
ri. Subiunxisti qd qd Gronlādie decia nō p<sup>er</sup>p<sup>er</sup>it nisi in bouino & focay<sup>is</sup> corijs  
ac dentibz & fūmto balenaz. q sicut asseris nix ad cōpetens p<sup>re</sup>tiū uendi possit. Unde  
q sup<sup>er</sup> p<sup>re</sup>missis a te agendū existat petisti te p<sup>ro</sup> ap<sup>osto</sup> sedis oraculū edoceri. Nos ita  
q tue sollici<sup>ti</sup> studij cōmōdites cōsultā tue talit<sup>er</sup> respōdem<sup>us</sup> qd tā Insularū quam  
Gronlādie decias p<sup>re</sup>dictas in argentū ul aurū p<sup>er</sup>it meli<sup>us</sup> & utili<sup>us</sup> si p<sup>er</sup>it cōūtere stu-  
deas illud imā cū illa alia decia in ipso Regno collecta p<sup>ro</sup> t<sup>er</sup>re subsidio ad ap<sup>osto</sup>  
sedē quāto potis t<sup>ra</sup>nsmissurus. quid & quātū destināis fidelit<sup>er</sup> intimādo. Ceterū  
Ca. i. r. fil. n. Regi norwegie Illust<sup>is</sup> n<sup>ost</sup>ris rogatorias l<sup>it</sup>erās destināis ut nō im-  
pediat si ipediri p<sup>er</sup>mittat qn decia ipa de Regno suo lib<sup>er</sup>e extrahat in p<sup>re</sup>dictē tēre  
subsidij scdm ap<sup>osto</sup> sedis arbit<sup>ri</sup>ū disponēda. q<sup>ui</sup>q<sup>ue</sup> p<sup>ro</sup>hibitionē cōtra oīdē clericos Regni  
factā ne quinus luc<sup>us</sup> ipi Regni Erlingos ul argentū aliud uēdere quoquom<sup>od</sup>  
p<sup>re</sup>sumat studeat difficultate sūmota qualibet renocare. Dat<sup>um</sup> ap<sup>osto</sup> Vrbenēterem  
iii. Non<sup>is</sup> martij Anno p<sup>ri</sup>mo. .



[Martinus IV.]

[4 Mart. 1282.]

8. Venerabili fratri . . archiepiscopo Nidrosiensi. Tua nobis fraernitas intimavit, quod decima, que in Islandie et Feroyum insulis in regno Norwegie constitutis in diversis rebus persolvitur, que de facili permutari vel pecunialiter vendi non possunt, propter quod decima eadem nequit ad Terram Sanctam vel ad sedem apostolicam comode destinari. Subiuncxisti quoque, quod Gronlandie decima non percipitur nisi in bovinis et focarum coriis ac dentibus et funibus balenarum, que, sicut asseris, vix ad competens pretium vendi possunt. Unde, quid super premissis a te agendum existat, petiisti te per apostolice sedis oraculum edoceri. Nos itaque tue sollicitudinis studium commendantes, consultationi tue taliter respondemus, quod tam insularum quam Gronlandie decimas predictarum in argentum vel aurum, prout melius et utilius fieri poterit, convertere studeas, illud una cum [illa] alia decima in ipso regno collecta pro ipsius Terre subsidio ad apostolicam sedem, quamcito poteris, transmissurus, quid et quantum destinaveris fideliter intimando. Ceterum carissimo in Christo filio nostro . . regi Norwegie illustri nostras rogatorias litteras destinavimus, ut non impediat nec impediri permittat, quin decima ipsa de regno suo libere extrahatur in predictae Terre subsidium secundum apostolice sedis arbitrium disponenda, quodque prohibitionem contra eiusdem clericos regni factam, ne quivis laicus ipsius regni sterlingos vel argentum aliud vendere quoquomodo presumat, studeat difficultate sumnota qualibet revocare. Dat. apud Urbem veterem IIII nonas martii, anno primo.

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*English Translation of the Letter of Pope Martin IV.*

(MARTIN IV.)

(March 4, 1282.)

8. TO OUR VENERABLE BROTHER—ARCHBISHOP OF NIDROSI. Your Fraternity has informed Us that, in the Island of Iceland and Feroyes of the Kingdom of Norway, the tithe is paid in various things which cannot easily be converted or sold for money; and for this reason the same cannot conveniently be shipped to the Holy Land or to the Apostolic See. You have added, moreover, that the tithe of Greenland is received entirely in cattle-skins, the skins and tusks of seals, and whale-bone (?), which you assert, can hardly be sold at a fair price. Wherefore you have asked to be instructed by the Apostolic See as to what you should do in the above matters. We, therefore, commending your zeal, reply to your inquiry that you endeavor to convert into silver or gold the tithes both of Greenland and of the said islands, in as far as it will be possible to do so successfully and with benefit, and that you send this, together with the rest of the tithe collected in that Kingdom for the good of the Holy Land, to the Apostolic See as quickly as possible, faithfully specifying what and how much is sent. For the rest, We have directed to Our very dear son in Christ \* \* \* the illustrious King of Norway, letters requesting that he neither hinder, nor permit any one to hinder, the free gathering of the tithe in his Kingdom, to be disposed of for the benefit of the Holy Land according to the decision of the Apostolic See, and that, having removed every difficulty, he revoke the prohibition enacted against the clerics of his Kingdom, that no layman of that Kingdom presume in any way to sell sterling or other silver. Given in the City of Rome, on the fourth day before the Nones of March, in the first year (of Our Pontificate).



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[Nicolaus V.]

[20 Sept. 1448.]

9. Nicolaus etc. venerabilibus fratribus Schaoltensi et  
 Poggias. Olensi episcopis salutem etc. Ex iniuncto nobis desuper apostolice  
 servitutis officio universarum ecclesiarum regimini presidentes, sic auctore  
 domino pro animarum salute precioso Salvatoris redemptas comertio hostre  
 solitudinis curam impendimus, ut illam non solum impietatis et errorum  
 procellis sepius fluctuantes, sed et erumnis et persecutionum turbinibus invo-  
 lutas ad statum optime tranquillitatis reducere studeamus. Sane pro parte di-  
 lectorum filiorum indigenarum et universitatis habitatorum insule Grenolandie,  
 que in ultimis finibus Oceani ad septemtrionalem plagam regni  
 Norwegie in provincia Nidrosiensi dicitur situata, lacrimabilis querela nostrum  
 turbavit auditum, amaricavit et mentem, quod in ipsam insulam, cuius habita-  
 tores et incole ab annis fere sexcentis Christi fidem gloriosi sui preconis beati  
 Olavi regis predicatione susceptam, firmam et intemeratam sub sancte Romane  
 ecclesie et sedis apostolice institutis servarunt, ac quod tempore succedente  
 in dicta insula populis assidua devotione flagrantibus, sanctorum edes quam-  
 plurime et insignis ecclesia cathedralis erecte fuerint, in quibus divinus cultus  
 sedulo agebatur, donec, illo permictente, qui imperscrutabili sapientie et scientie  
 sue scrutinio persepe, quos diligit, temporaliter corrigit et ad meliorem emen-  
 dam castigat, ex finitimis lictoribus paganorum ante annos triginta classe na-  
 vali barbari insurgentes, cunctum habitatorum ibidem populum crudeli inva-  
 sione aggressi et ipsam patriam edesque sacras igne et gladio devastantes solis  
 [in] insula novem relictis ecclesiis parrochialibus, que latissimis dicitur extendi  
 terminis, quas propter crepidines montium commode adire non poterant, mi-  
 serandos utriusque sexus indigenas, illos precipue quos ad subeundum perpetue  
 onera servitutis aptos videbant et fortes, tanquam ipsorum tyrannidi accomo-  
 dados, ad propria vexerunt captivos. Verum quia, sicut eadem querela sub-  
 iungebat, post temporis successum quamplurimi ex captivitate predicta redeun-  
 tes ad propria et reffectis hinc inde locorum ruinis, divinum cultum possete-  
 nus ad instar dispositionis pristine ampliare et instaurare desiderant, et quia  
 propter preteritarum calamitatum pressuras fame et inedia laborantibus non  
 suppetebat hucusque facultas presbiteros nutriendi et presulem, toto illo tri-  
 ginta annorum tempore episcopi solatio et sacerdotum ministerio caruerunt,  
 nisi quis per longissimam dierum et locorum distanciam divinorum desiderio  
 officiorum ad illas se conferre valuisset ecclesias, quas manus barbarica illesas  
 pretermisit, nobis humiliter supplicari fecerunt, quatinus eorum pio et salutari  
 proposito paterna miseratione cucurrere [l. succurrere] et ipsorum in spirituali-  
 bus supplere defectus nostrumque et apostolice sedis in premissis favorem im-  
 partiri benivolum dignaremur. Nos igitur dictorum indigenarum et universitatis  
 habitatorum prefate insule Grenolandie iustis et honestis precibus et desideriis  
 inclinati, de premissis et eorum circumstantiis certam noticiam non habentes,  
 fraternitati vestre, quos ex vicinioribus episcopis insule prefate esse intellexi-  
 mus, per apostolica scripta committimus et mandamus, quatinus vos vel  
 alter vestrum diligenti examine auditis et intellectis premissis, si ea veritate  
 fulciri compereritis ipsumque populum et indigenas numero et facultatibus adeo  
 sufficienter esse resumptos, quod id pro nunc expedire videbitis, quod ipsi  
 affectare videntur, de sacerdotibus ydoneis et exemplari vita predictis ordi-  
 nandi et providendi plebanos et rectores instituendi, qui

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*Latin Type Text of the Letter of Pope Nicolas V (continued).*

parrocchias et ecclesias resarcitas gubernent, sacramenta ministrent et, si vobis sive alteri vestrum demum expedire videbitur et opportunum, requisito ad hoc metropolitani consilio, si loci distancia patietur, personam utilem et ydoneam, nostram et sedis apostolice communionem habentem, eis in episcopum ordinare et instituere ac sibi munus consecrationis in forma ecclesie consueta, nomine nostro impendere et administracionem spiritualium et temporalium concedere, recepto ab eodem prius iuramento nobis et Romane ecclesie debito et consueto, valeatis vel alter vestrum valeat; super quibus omnibus vestram conscienciam oneramus, plenam et liberam vobis vel alteri vestrum auctoritate apostolica concedimus tenore presencium facultatem, statutis et constitutionibus apostolicis et generalium conciliorum ac aliis in contrarium editis non obstantibus quibuscunque. Dat. Rome apud Sanctam Potencianam, anno etc. millesimo quadingentesimo quadragesimo octavo, duodecimo kalendas octobris, pontificatus nostri anno secundo.

*Gratis de mandato domini nostri pape.*

(NICOLAS V.)

(Sept. 20, 1448.)

9. Nicolas etc., to Our venerable brothers, the Bishops of Shaoltensus and Olensus, greeting, etc. Presiding over the government of the universal Church in virtue of the duty of Apostolic service enjoined on Us from heaven with the help of the Lord We so apply Our solicitous care for the salvation of souls redeemed by the precious labors of the Redeemer, that We endeavor to bring back to a state of the highest tranquility not only the souls now wavering in the storms of impiety and error, but also such as are overwhelmed by the calamities and whirlwinds of persecution. Indeed, as regards Our beloved sons, the natives and all the inhabitants of the Island of Greenland, which is said to lie in the province of Nidrosi, in the extremity of the Ocean, in the northern region of the Kingdom of Norway, We have heard with sad and anxious heart the doleful story of that same island, whose inhabitants and natives, for almost six hundred years, have kept the Faith of Christ, received under the preaching of their glorious evangelist, the blessed King Olaf, firm and unspotted under the guidance of the Holy Roman Church and the Apostolic See, and where for all succeeding time the people, inflamed with eager devotion, erected many temples of the Saints and a famous Cathedral, in which divine worship was sedulously carried on; but at length, thirty years ago, with the permission of Him Who, in the disposition of His inscrutable wisdom, afflicts for a time and chastises for their great good those whom He loves, the barbarians, gathering together in a fleet on the neighboring shores of the Pagans, attacked this entire people in a cruel invasion, devastating their fatherland and sacred temples by fire and sword, leaving in the island only nine parochial churches, these, it is said, extend into the farthest districts, which they could not approach conveniently because of the defiles of the mountains, and carrying away captive to their possessions the natives of both sexes, especially such as they deemed brave and fit to undergo the burden of perpetual slavery, just as if adjusted to their tyranny. As the same report subjoins, however, very many, after a time, returned to their own from said captivity, and, having thenceforth repaired the ruins of those places, desired to renew and extend the divine worship as much as possible after the pristine fashion but because, overwhelmed by the past calamities, and laboring under famine and want, they were unable to support priests and a bishop, they were deprived, for that entire period of thirty years, of the consolation of a bishop and the ministry of priests, except when anyone, in the desire of serving God, after travelling far and long, had succeeded in reaching those churches which the barbarian hand had passed unhurt; wherefore they have humbly petitioned Us to deign to meet their pious and salutary design with fatherly commiseration, and to supply their spiritual wants and impart Our benevolent approbation and that of the Apostolic See to the foregoing. We, therefore, favorably disposed towards the just and worthy prayers and desires of said natives and inhabitants of the aforesaid island of Greenland, but having no certain knowledge of the foregoing events and their circumstances, commit to and command your Fraternity, whom We understand to be one of the nearer bishops of the aforesaid island, that you, or one of you (nearer bishops), ordain fit and exemplary priests, provide parishes, and establish rectors, who will govern the restored parishes and churches, and administer the Sacraments; and, furthermore, that, if it will finally appear to you or one of you as opportune and expedient, you will, with the advice of the metropolitan, provide the distance of the place permit, ordain and establish as their bishop some practical and able person, in communion with Us and the Apostolic See, and impart to him the grace of consecration in Our name, according to the usual ecclesiastical forms, and deliver to him the conduct both of spiritual and temporal matters, having previously administered to him the proper and usual oath of allegiance to Us and the Roman Church; in regard to all of which We bind your conscience, and grant you or any one of you, by Apostolic authority, by the tenor of the present document, free and complete power, any apostolic regulations and constitutions, and those of the General Councils, and any others, to the contrary notwithstanding. Given in Rome, at the Church of St. Pontenciana in the year etc., one thousand four hundred and forty-eight, the twelfth day before the Calends of October, in the second year (of Our Pontificate).

GRATIS BY COMMAND OF OUR MASTER THE POPE.







FROM THE VATICAN LIBRARY.

Manuscript Letter of Pope Alexander VI to the Church of  
Garda, Greenland.\*

Man. de epistola  
græcæ ecclesiæ. Gardæ  
et q. ad universam  
Gardæ

omnino ut accepimus ecclesiam Gardæ in fine mundi sita in terra  
Groenlandia in qua habent edificantes de hisce partibus magis  
et sic propter locum ubi edificantes et ob id ac propter eas  
fines navigationes ad domum terrarum constantibus intentionibus  
aquarum congelationibus fieri solent namque aliqua ab octuaginta  
annis non cunctis appropinquasse et si navigationes huius fieri con-  
tingit effectus hoc non nisi de mensis augusti congelationibus  
perire possunt fieri posse non existimamus et pro ea causa ecclesia  
similiter ab octuaginta annis ut cunctis nullus partibus ipsarum  
ut paterum apud illam personaliter residendo pateruisse de  
inde ac propter paterum catholicorum absentiam dicitur quod  
plures diocesanos illam catholicos pariter per eos baptismum  
susceptum paterum recognasse et quod modo cunctis terrarum  
in memoriam christi religionis non sunt nisi quoddam  
corpus quod simul in anno paterum super quo ante cunctis  
annos ab aliis sacerdotibus tunc ibidem christi corpus christi fuit  
consecratum huiusmodi igitur et alijs considerant considerandum  
fuerit. Innocentius papa dominus predecessor noster videns deinde ecclesia  
tunc pastorem solatio destituta deinde de ydoneo pastore paterum  
de fœderis suis consilio de quo paterum tunc ex parte dicitur fieri.

\* Pope Alexander VI. was born in 1431, and crowned Pope August 11, 1492.



nunciis Marchionem electum Cardinem noster per litteras de-  
 designantes premissis ad nos instantibus deinde ad nos in nunciis  
 constitutus ex parte plenius ad deum rectum principem  
 ac magno pro directionis favore accepit per denarios  
 et erogatores nuntios ad deum salutem eorum reducere  
 et exoribus huius conditionis huius per pro principem  
 sponte et libere subiectum Nuncios et personaliter prefecit  
 mandantes eis operam perficere et pastorem Nos igitur nuntios  
 electos per et laudabiles proprios in deo quod plerumque  
 commendantes plures in premissis aliquos subiectum auxilio pro  
 in pauperibus qua ut scilicet accepimus generis per succurre-  
 cupere motu proprio et et ut operetur noster favore de-  
 fectum noster consilio et assensu Dilecti filii Rectoris  
 Abbatum noster sollicitatorum ac plerumque  
 illorum Registratores et ceteros tam committere quod  
 committere noster aptum officialiter quibusque sub operis  
 libere per pro pro inveniendis committit et man-  
 damus ut omnes et singulas litteras aptum de et super pro  
 motione deo rectum Cardinem per deo electo operetur  
 omnibus et singulis eorum officiis generis ubique pro de  
 absque cuiusque temporis solutionem per operationem expediat  
 et operetur faciant omni contradictione cessante  
 noster committere aptum et notariis et litteris  
 per bullas huius deo electo absque solui per operationem  
 aliorum annuente per nuntios per nuntios et alios nuntios  
 quoniamque in similibus solui solui solui tendant et consueverunt  
 motu et sponte similibus ac subiectum predictis committit  
 et mandantes in contrarium faciant noleant quibusque  
 fiat generis ubique quod pauperibus.

10. Ma. Nuncios

Jo. de...





*Latin Type Text of Letter of Pope Alexander VI to the  
Church of Garda, Greenland.*

[Alexander VI.]

[Prioribus pontificatus annis.]

10.

Mandatum de  
expediendo gra-  
tis ecclesiam Ga-  
densem, etiam  
quoad minuta  
servitia.

Cum, ut accepimus, ecclesia Gadensis in fine mundi sita in terra Gronlandie, in qua homines commorantes ob defectum panis, vini et olei siccis piscibus et lacte uti consueverunt, et ob id ac propter rarissimas navigationes ad dictam terram causantibus intentissimis aquarum congelationibus fieri solitas navis aliqua ab ottuaginta annis non creditur applicuisse, et, si navigationes huiusmodi fieri contingeret, profecto has non nisi mense augusti congelationibus ipsis resolutis fieri posse non existimentur; et propterea eidem ecclesie similiter ab ottuaginta annis vel circa nullus penitus episcoporum vel presbyterorum apud illam personaliter residendo prefuisse dicitur; unde ac propter presbyterorum catholicorum absentiam evenit, quam plures diocesanos olim catholicos sacrum per eos baptismum susceptum pro dolor regnasse [*l. renegasse*]; et quod incole eiusdem terre in memoriam christiane religionis non habent nisi quoddam corporale, quod semel in anno presentetur, super quo ante centum annos ab ultimo sacerdote tunc ibidem existente corpus Christi fuit consecratum; hiis igitur et aliis consideratis considerandis, felicitis recordationis Innocentius papa VIII, predecessor noster, volens dicte ecclesie tunc pastoris solatio destitute de utili, de ydoneo pastore providere, de fratrum suorum consilio, de quorum numero tunc eramus, venerabilem fratrem

nostrum Mathiam, electum Gadensem, ordinis sancti Benedicti de observantia professum, ad nostram instantiam, dum adhuc in minoribus constituti eramus, proclamatum ad dictam ecclesiam summopere ac magno devotionis fervore accensum pro deviatorum et renegatorum mentibus ad viam salutis eterne reducendis et erroribus huiusmodi eradicandis vitam suam periculo permaximo sponte et libere submictendo navigio etiam personaliter proficisci intendentem, eidem episcopum prefecit et pastorem. Nos igitur eiusdem electi pium et laudabile propositum in Domino quam plurimum commendantes sibique in premissis aliquo subventionis auxilio propter eius paupertatem, qua, ut similiter accepimus, gravatus existit, succurrere cupientes, motu proprio et etiam ex certa nostra scientia de fratrum nostrorum consilio et assensu, dilectis filiis rescribendario, abbreviatoribus necnon sollicitatoribus ac plumbatoribus illarumque registratoribus ceterisque tam cancellarie quam camere nostre apostolice officialibus quibuscumque sub excommunicationis late sententie pena ipso facto incurrenda committimus et mandamus, ut omnes et singulas litteras apostolicas de et super promotione dicte ecclesie Gadensis pro dicto electo expediendas in omnibus et singulis eorum officiis gratis ubique pro Deo absque cuiuscunque taxe solutione seu exactione expediant et expediri faciant omni contradictione cessante; necnon camere apostolice clericis et notariis, ut litteras seu bullas huiusmodi dicto electo absque solutione seu exactione alicuius annate seu minorum servitiorum et aliorum iurium quorumcumque in similibus solvi solutorum [*l. solitorum*] libere tradant et consignent, motu et scientia similibus ac sub penis predictis committimus et mandamus, in contrarium facientes non obstantibus quibuscumque. Fiat gratis ubique quia pauperrimus. R.

As. Ma. Vicecancellarius.

Io. Datarius.

(ALEXANDER VI.)

(IN THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS PONTIFICATE.)


10. Since, as We have heard, the Church of Garda is situated at the extremity of the earth in the country of Greenland, whose inhabitants are accustomed to use dried fish and milk because of the want of bread, wine and oil, wherefore and also on account of the rare shipping to said country due to the intense freezing of the sea no vessel is believed to have put to land there for eighty years back, or if it happened that such voyages were made, surely, it is thought, they could not have been accomplished save in the month of August, when the ice was dissolved; and since it is likewise said that for eighty years, or thereabouts, absolutely no bishop or priest governed that Church in personal residence, which fact, together with the absence of Catholic priests, brought it to pass that very many of the diocese unhappily repudiated their sacred baptismal vows; and since the inhabitants of that land have no relic of the Christian religion save a certain Corporale, annually set forth, upon which, a hundred years ago, the Body of Christ was consecrated by the last priest then living there;—for these, then, and for other considerations, Pope Innocent VIII, of blessed memory, Our predecessor wishing to provide a suitable pastor for that Church, at the time deprived of the useful solace of the same, at the advice of his brethren, of whom We were then one, appointed bishop and pastor to that place Our venerable brother Matthias; the latter was Bishop-elect of Garda, a professed member of the Order of St. Benedict, and had been announced, at Our urging, while We were still in Minor Orders, as intending to sail personally for said Church, inspired with great fervor of devotion to lead back the souls of the strayed and apostate to the way of eternal salvation, and to expose his life to the greatest danger, freely and spontaneously, to obliterate such errors. We, therefore, highly commending the pious and praiseworthy undertaking in the Lord of said Bishop-elect, and wishing to succour him in the above circumstances, because, as We have likewise heard, he is sorely pressed by poverty, at Our own instance and with the certain knowledge of the advice and approval of Our brethren, commit to and order, in a circular letter to Our esteemed sons, the scribes, solicitors, those who have charge of the seals, the registrars, and all the other officials both of Our Apostolic chancery and treasury, that, under pain of excommunication, “*lata sententia*,” ipso facto incurred, all and each of the Apostolic Letters, about and concerning the promotion of said Church of Garda, to be forwarded for said Bishop-elect, be forwarded by them and caused to be forwarded in all and each of their offices, everywhere gratis, for God, and without payment or exaction of any tax, all contradiction ceasing; and to the clerics and notaries of the Apostolic treasury We commit and command, at like instance and knowledge and under said pain of excommunication, that they freely hand over and consign these Letters or Bulls to said Bishop-elect, without payment or exaction of any revenues, or even of small fees, or of the other claims usually paid in similar cases, anything enacted to the contrary notwithstanding. Let it be done everywhere gratis because he is extremely poor. R

AS. MA. VICE CHANCELLOR.

JNO. DATRARIUS (Secretary).



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